

The DC Gazette

A Journal of Progressive Politics & Ideas

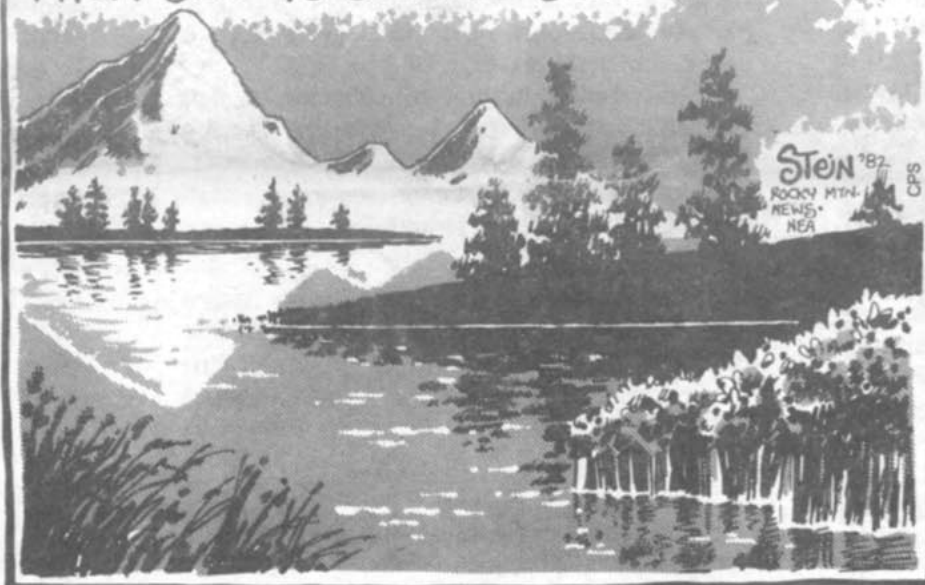
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THE FOURTH WORLD

OH, BEAUTIFUL! OUR FEDERAL LANDS
ON SALE FOR WAVES OF GREEN.
WANT A PURPLE MOUNTAIN MAJESTY?
THAT'LL BE A BUCK-NINETEEN!
AMERICA, AMERICA,
HERE'S WHAT THEY PLAN FOR THEE:
TO RAPE THY LAND FOR CASH IN HAND
FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA.



NEIGHBORHOOD LAND TRUSTS



PROGRESSIVE NEWS ROUNDUP



BUCKING THE SYSTEM SINCE 1966

You can blame Reagan for a lot of things but not for introducing "stay the course" into the political rhetoric. The Washington Teacher, a union newspaper, points out that Jimmy Carter used the phrase twice in one speech. Addressing B'nai B'rith in 1980, Carter said of the Middle East that we "will stay the course, no matter how difficult it might be." And speaking of his domestic programs, Carter said, "Our country is on the right road to the right future, and we will stay the course."

Nat Hentoff of the Village Voice has been a lonely critic of the Abscam investigations, regularly reporting on the improprieties and unconstitutionality of the FBI and federal prosecutors. Now, he has been joined by American Lawyer editor and publisher Steven Brill, who wrote in the January issue of AL a long account of the Abscam investigation. Says Brill:

"There is now strong evidence that the prosecutors in charge of Abscam — Phillip Heymann, Irvin Nathan, and Thomas Puccio — ruined the life of at least one innocent defendant (former New Jersey Casino Control Commission vice-chairman Kenneth MacDonald), unfairly convicted several other utterly unsympathetic but not appropriately prosecutable public officials (such as Senator Williams), and then stained the reputation of those professional prosecutors who had the guts to say, in internal memos of dissent, that the simple integrity of the system was more important than a sexy indictment or conviction."

One lasting effect of Abscam appears to be a lowered resistance to well-bruited police investigations of public officials, witness the recent publicity into the possible cocaine use by Rep. Charlie Wilson. There is simply too much potential for arbitrary prosecution and political blackmail for this sort of minor-league witch-hunting to be encouraged.

One of the more egregious examples of the dangers involved was the FBI's four year investigation into the Cleveland Municipal Court. Leaks abounded that the investigation was centered on black judges.

THE DC GAZETTE

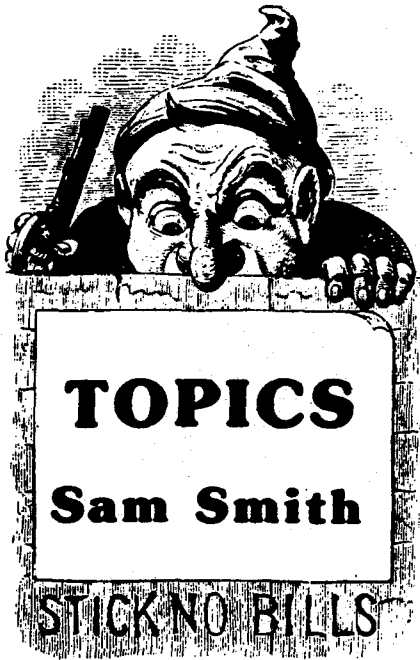
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The Gazette welcomes articles, letters and photos as well as short stories and poems, but cannot, unfortunately, afford to pay for them. All submissions should be made with a stamped self-addressed envelope if you wish material returned.

Deadline for editorial and advertising matter: 15th of the month.

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For four years this was going on. Meanwhile, our vaunted FBI was gathering evidence, it thought, against one of the black judges, Clarence Gaines. The only problem was that the man to whom the agents were passing the bribes wasn't Judge Gaines at all, but a court bailiff impersonating the judge. In one of the meetings, the bailiff even wore Gaines's own robes. Well, the bailiff has since been indicted but the federal government has yet to apologize to Judge Gaines or anyone else in the court, even though the only conviction to date has been against yet another person who was, yes, impersonating a judge for the benefit of the FBI.

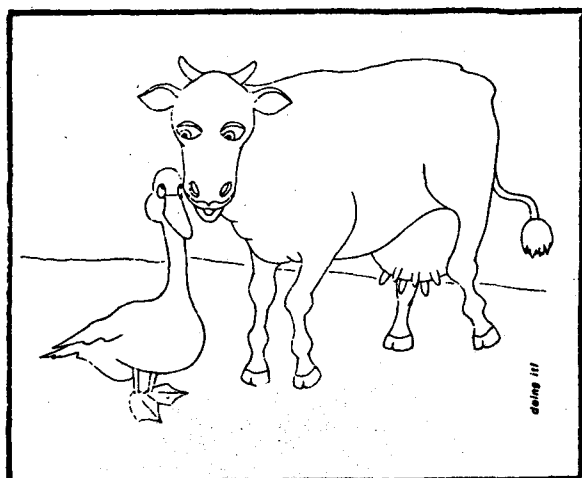
This should have been big news, but the rest of the media left it to the Cleveland Plain Dealer and Nat Hentoff, one of the few journalists who still worries about such things.

Miscellaneous political data: there are no longer any Schwenkfelders in the cabinet. The 2700-member Pennsylvanian religious sect formerly could boast both Drew Lewis and Richard Schweiker.

According to Vladimir Sakharov, former pal of Yuri Andropov, defector to the west, and most recently a snitch to Diana McLellen, reports that Yuri is "very nearly a hen-pecked husband" who "defers to his wife's opinion in many matters." Andropov also is a fan of Miles Davis and Glenn Miller and likes American tailored suits. He also, reports, Diana, "likes to sit around with pals drinking vodka, listening to Russian gypsy music and crying."

The pseudo-story of the month award goes to the Washington Post, which printed this Lou Cannon lead on its front page:

"President Reagan took the offensive



yesterday for the first time against the perception that he is presiding over a leaderless administration in which the key decisions are being made on his behalf by the White House staff."

The six-column head on the jump page ran, "President Takes the Offensive Against Image as a Detached Leader."

The question here is: does the Post perceive the perception it is presenting by perceiving the president as perceiving a problem in the perception previously perceived by the Post and proposing to promulgate a new perception? And where does reality go when the image-makers and the image-relators are at play?

Running Times checked out the sports coverage of USA Today and came up with some interesting statistics. On its first day, September 15, USA Today gave football thirty percent more coverage than baseball, ice hockey, golf, boxing, track, tennis, soccer, bicycling, basketball, bowling cross country, horse racing and road racing combined.

Although populism these days has a pretty good reputation, it helps to understand certain developments on the political scene to remember that there was been a natavistic, racist and selfish streak that has run throughout populism's history along with its striving for economic and political justice. Fear and frustration can bring progress and hope; it can also result in paranoia and hate. Two politicians who capitalized on the latter to gain office were George Wallace and Frank Rizzo. Now Wallace is back in office after running a campaign that emphasized the better side of populism, defending the weak against the powerful and so forth. The press largely ignored the Wallace campaign in part, I suspect, because it couldn't understand it. I heard one radio station announce that "former segregationist governor George Wallace had won election." No further description.

I'm not suggesting that Wallace should be forgiven all his sins, only to say the Wallace change is within the norms of populist history.

A similar situation appears to be developing in Philadelphia where Frank Rizzo is attempting to make a comeback. Here, for example, are some excerpts from Rizzo's current thoughts on gays:

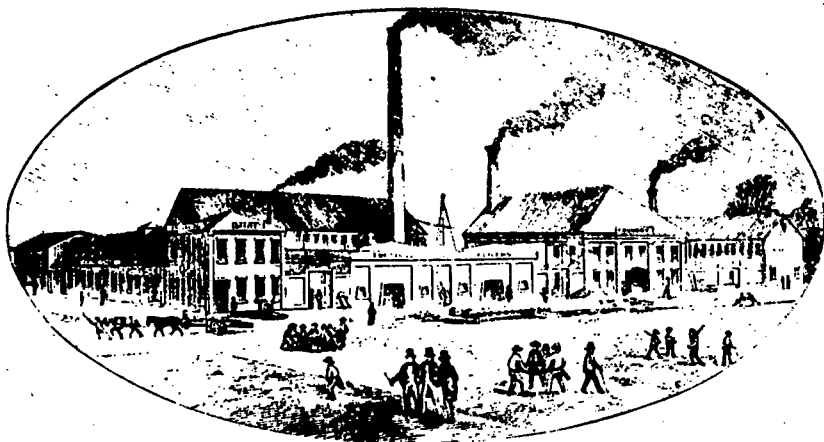
Rizzo now says that he has no problem with gay police officers whatsoever: "I'm wiser. They're here now. I know there are gays in the Police Department and I'm sure there were gays in the Police Department before that. All I'm concerned about is that they do their job and do it well. And I'm sure they will — so what's the big deal?"

How about gays in his administration: "I would say yes. I'm not going to ask them if they're gay. I have no way of knowing. If a guy's got ability, I'm going to hire him. If he's gay, there's nothing I, you know, what do I care? It's just no problem. I don't ask anybody if they're gay."

About his remark about "making Attila the Hun look like a faggot:"

"Attila the Hun was supposed to be a guy who was bad. There had been a violent crime — it was something that

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THE IDEA MILL

A neighborhood land trust

BERKELEY, CA — An unusual experiment in neighborhood self-determination is underway in this San Francisco Bay city known for its unorthodox ways. The outcome may provide one answer to wrenching changes besetting many other American communities today.

The "laboratory" is the 3100 block of Shattuck Avenue, a major thoroughfare near the Oakland border. The goal is to protect the neighborhood's ethnic diversity and its own cherished sense of community. What threatens are commercial development and "gentrification"—processes that often drive property prices up and longtime residents out.

The 3100 block is something special here, a contentedly "mixed" neighborhood in an area where whites, Hispanics and blacks are more often found in separate enclaves. Three blocks north, a small but fashionable shopping center is rising, of the type that provokes some anxiety over pressure on real estate values, and the future health of the modest local enterprises.

"Neighborhood improvement is a desirable goal, but you have to ask for whom you're improving it," says Dale Becknell. And that's where Becknell's organization, the Northern California Land Trust, comes in. Under its Model Alternatives for Peace program, the NCLT has made a down payment of \$43,000 to buy a commercial building on the Shattuck block. Working with a neighborhood association, it is establishing a rental and use plan to make the block an attractive longterm base for small businesses and local groups.

Community land trusts such as the NCLT, Becknell explains, offer non-profit alternatives to the usual cycle of neighborhood deterioration followed by speculation and displacement of people and businesses serving local needs.

The building is the third of four commercial structures on the block to be bought by community groups. Two are occupied by La Pena and the Starry Plough, the former a Latin American bar, restaurant and cultural center, the latter an Irish bar catering to poets and musicians.

While the NCLT holds title to the newly purchased building, the neighborhood group will supervise its use and assure access for minority enterprises: Renewable leases at below-market rents provide longterm security. Current tenants include the NCLT itself, a half-dozen other community organizations, a printing and publishing firm, an attorney, and a liquor store; three additional community groups have expressed interest in renting space.

Ahmad Hakim, a printer who is setting up shop in the building, was searching desperately for a location after moving his family from Los Angeles.

"I don't think we could have gotten into a place like this without the land trust bending over backward," he says. "We see great possibilities here. People in the area give us inspiration and let us know that we're going to serve a purpose."

Adds Mary Carleton, who made a loan for the building purchase: "I was looking for an alternative place to put my money, because with the banks I either didn't know what their lending policies were or I didn't agree with them. I want to help

create non-profit neighborhood-run ownership for buildings."

Glen Schneider, a gardener, landscaper, and a neighborhood association founder, declares that "a big factor is increased security, not having to worry about an unexpected rent increase if the building is sold. Another is more control and a sense of stewardship. It will stabilize the block, help develop a feeling of community."

In time, Becknell said, the neighborhood group might establish a development corporation which could buy the building while leaving the land in trust with the NCLT. Such an arrangement could provide tax incentives for future investment and enable the NCLT to recapture and recycle funds originally assigned to the project.

"There is a conscious effort to deal with more than one aspect of the community—for example, linking land ownership, economic development, and democratic community self-management," said Bob Fabian, a neighborhood activist in economic development and energy planning, and a founder of the community organization. "Our organizers are attempting to relate the project to broader, longterm change."

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If you or your organization are working on an idea that others might find useful or interesting, write a short piece about it and send it to The Idea Mill, c/o the DC Gazette, 1739 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20009.

DC SHORTS

Free Men has a rap group beginning this month. It will consist of two-hour sessions held for eight weeks at which the talk will be about sexuality, emotions, enjoying life etc. The group is non-therapeutic. Info: 543-2332.

Applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program are now being accepted. The federally-assisted program provides financial assistance and conservation measures to help low-income households meet home heating bills. Info: DC Energy Hotline, 724-2100.

The next time you take your car in to be inspected, it will be given a mandatory air pollution check. If you fail, you will have 20 days to make repairs, but you won't have to wait again in those godawful inspection lines. You can go to any of 32 certified reinspection stations to get a sticker.

Registration for summer jobs has begun. High school students will be able to register at their schools. Out-of-school and college youth can register at the Department of Employment Services, 500 C St. NW through April 29. Info: 679-1573.

The city's Office of Business and Economic Development has been working with Plan Takoma on a proposed \$30,000 study of Takoma's commercial area. Info: Helen Helfer, Plan Takoma, 722-625.

There were only 36 traffic fatalities in DC during 1982, down from 52 in 1981. There has been a downward trend in traffic deaths since 1967 when there were 131. Eleven of the 1982 traffic deaths were pedestrians compared with 16 in 1981.

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SAM SMITH

Fever time

For the past two months I have found myself willingly suspending my belief in football as a metaphor for the ills of America. I did so out of motivations of both sentiment and survival. Love, in all its forms, is infectious and, besides, I did not want to spend two months unable to talk to any living soul in the Washington Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, including all members of my family. What finally tilted me towards the Redskins was the obverse of what generally tilts me away from the sport. How often do you find a team with a coach as decent and admirable as Joe Gibbs, a quarterback as articulate and earnest as Joe Theisman and a running back as engagingly competent as John Riggins? The latter won my heart when he described his running style as "sort of boring" and handled the media better than any public figure since Sam Ervin.

I remember the hostility I felt when the Redskins were last on the roll. I looked at George Allen as Richard Nixon and Elmer Gantry by other means and resented the suggestion that I should cheer him on to anything other than obscurity. I suspected the Redskin locker room of being the secret command center of the authoritarian right and the Redskin ethos of being the spiritual mentor of Watergate.

How gloriously different it was this time. There was hardly a hint of the former implication that God personally conducted bedchecks on the team and guided the ball from quarterback to goal line. And when Ronald Reagan tried to horn in on the celebration after the Dallas victory, the connection was bad and Joe Gibbs said something like, "I can't hear you very well but thank you very much" and left it at that.

On that final night when strong men like George Michaels and Joe Theisman let their eyes mist over and Jim Vance slurred and reeled on camera, I still had enough inherent disinterest to spend the evening with friends in Virginia of a musical bent, friends who believed deeply that Jelly Roll Morton did more to reveal God's ways to man than John Riggins does. But I watched the last quarter with growing intensity and then found myself foolishly drawn towards Georgetown, diverted at the

last minute by the the sight of a line of catatonic tail lights on Key Bridge.

In the calm of the next morning, however, I felt cynical croci attempting to burst through my brain's topsoil. For one thing, I wondered why it took something as safe, removed and vicarious as this to "bring us together." Do we now wait another 40 years? And I dwelt with horror at the prospect of local politicians (Marion Barry and Walter Fauntroy I felt sure would be the worst culprits) attempting to shroud themselves in the glory of the team for months to come, trying to make everyone forget the big difference between the Hogs and Company and themselves -- namely that the Redskins do what they do very well.

I was reminded of John Kenneth Galbraith's reaction to a Harvard-Dartmouth game. He said that he had "found similar but greater interest in watching an aging Harvard professor negotiate the Widener Library steps with a large armful of books after a bad ice storm." And I recalled Robert Morley's proud boast that he had never willingly chased a ball.

Finally, I told myself that even if they were to blindfold me to the goalpost at RFK Stadium in front of a line of rifles I would not say it was better than Brooks Robinson Day or watching Earl Weaver close out his career.

But no matter. It must have been good and important because even I enjoyed it all. Hail to the Redskins and so forth. Just save a little time to remember Mercury Morris.

Bungle time

To put it most kindly, Mayor Barry's behavior over the past few weeks has startled even those who worked hard for his re-election. Not only is his budget a strange testament to one who began his mayoral career with a promise of competence and compassion, but he has added gratuitous insults to those who will suffer most from it. The extraordinary bonuses to aides already earning over \$50,000 a year, his refusal to meet with budget protesters and his ducking of direct questioning before the council, all gave people cause to wonder whether he made his fiscal decisions with pain or merely cynicism. Once again, the facts are muddy, once again he is trying to squeeze the school system, once again he is treating his budget as though it was a sacred text rather than just one man's attempt to resolve a difficult dilemma.

The most sensible way out of the dilemma would be through some form of negotiation among the interest groups concerned. Ideally, we'd find politicians facing up to the fact that they might actually have to raise taxes, government unions admitting that maybe they could do without pay increases in excess of the expected rate of the rate of inflation, and even the school system lowering its demands a bit. And we'd find the mayor admitting that welfare programs were perhaps as important as his beloved convention center or the money that

is silently siphoned off in the name of "economic development."

But Barry has set a tone of confrontation rather than compromise. Further he has rigged the game from the start. His basic premise appears to be that those with real political clout will suffer least. Small wonder that school children will be paying more to ride the bus, public assistance will be slashed and teachers will be laid off.

The fiscal crisis of DC is real. Barry is not making it up. But his budget is not a realistic response to the crisis. Barry is acting a bit like someone who stops feeding his dog so he'll be able to continue to afford his BMW. Neither the morality nor the numbers are right.

In amongst the political gloom of January came the happy news of Roland Freeman's photographic exhibition at the Corcoran -- a sign that this extraordinary photographer is finally getting the recognition that he deserves.

Roland's photographs graced the pages of this journal for a number of years, but the producer and not just the product had an effect on these pages -- one that lingers on.

His work (which will be on exhibit at the Corcoran though March 13) has been well-praised elsewhere, but since nobody commissions inspiration or hangs it on the wall, many may chalk his accomplishment up to mere "technique" or "talent." Anyone who

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FRONT BURNER

Below are some of the city issues that especially deserve your attention in the month ahead -- and that of any civic group, church or political organization to which you may belong:

THE BUDGET

The city council is considering the mayor's budget -- which is unnecessarily harsh on the needy and the schools.

ELECTION FRAUD

City hall seems intent upon not fulfilling its legal responsibilities to redistrict ANC's by the next election and bring its voter registration lists into some sort of order. It has decided on the easier approach of postponing next fall's elections. There is no excuse for this. Further, the move appears to be an attempt to soften up the public to accept the idea that the non-partisan school board and ANC elections should be held at the same time as the partisan races -- allowing would-be Democratic bosses to extend their political control.

THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

A number of community groups have been strongly critical of this badly written document, which, among other things, gives little protection to neighborhood interests. The comment period runs through April 8.

PROGRESSIVE DIGEST

Energy conference

On the eve of the fourth anniversary of the accident at Three Mile Island, Public Citizen's Critical Mass Energy Project will be convening a major national safe energy conference. Called "Critical Mass '83" the conference will take place March 25-27 at Howard University in DC and is expected to bring together hundreds of activists, experts and citizens. Co-sponsored by more than 20 national and regional environmental, energy and public interest organizations, "Critical Mass '83" will bring together experts and long-time activists from around the country to share information, examine successes and failures and discuss strategies to achieve a safe energy future, end nuclear power, create jobs through conservation and alternate energy sources and to emphasize the connections between nuclear power and atomic weapons.

The registration fee of \$35 (\$45 after March 15) includes one lunch, child care and a workbook summarizing the conference workshops. Some funds to subsidize travel and registration are available and some free housing will also be available to pre-registrants. Conference brochures and registration forms are available from Critical Mass '83, 215 Penna. Ave. SE, DC 20003.

Action notes

The Alliance for Justice predicts that only the wealthy will be able to pay for litigation if Congress repeals attorney fee provisions of some 60 federal statutes, as is being suggested within the Reagan administration. OMB has drafted legislation that would sharply limit or prevent altogether recovery of legal fees from the federal government. The bill would also severely limit access to the courts for many individuals, unions and organizations seeking to vindicate their rights.

"By restricting attorney's fees awards, the bill would, in most cases, make the burden of litigating against the federal government too heavy for all but the wealthy to carry," Nan Aron, executive director of the Alliance, wrote recently in a letter seeking support.

According to Aron, the proposed legislation sets up a long series of hurdles which would make it extremely difficult for persons to obtain legal counsel to prosecute their claims. For example, the bill would forbid an award of legal fees to organizations which have borne the costs of the litigation through the use of regular staff attorneys; make a party ineligible for an eventual fee award if he or she retained counsel on a contingent fee basis; permit fee awards only to extent they exceed 25 percent of any money awarded to the litigants; permit fee awards only for work performed on issues upon which

the party prevails and which are necessary to resolve the controversy; and apply provisions of the bill retroactively to all pending cases.

The depression

More businesses failed last year than any time since 1932. Business failures climbed 55 percent in 1980 and 49% last year.

The FHA foreclosed on over 776 farmers in 1982, more than double its 300 foreclosures in 1981. The agency says that a quarter of its 271,000 farm borrowers are overdue on payments, and in some states half are delinquent.

Among the economy's latest victims is the Laffer Economic Report, a monthly newsletter published by A.D. Laffer Associates. Editor Tom Nugen blames a lack of aggressive marketing -- and the economy.

Some of the nation's most prestigious law firms are feeling the crunch of the Reagan economy. Clients have become more cost-conscious and federal deregulation has cut the number of profitable antitrust cases. Law firms now find themselves in stiff competition for business. Says one attorney, "It was a lot more fun in the old days. It was more relaxed and gentlemanly. Faced with dwindling resources, even lucrative old-line firms have been forced learn cost management techniques and strategic planning. Others have resorted to advertising or hired public relations advisers. Strategies include salary freezes and cutbacks in expense-ac-



count amenities like first-class airfare and chauffeured limousines. So far, however, few firms have lowered their fees.

Poor women and their children all over the country are facing "life-threatening" conditions due to the Reagan administration's slashes in the national budget, according to Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund. Last month the fund released its study of budget cutbacks made between the fall of 1981 and 1982.

The fund's report shows that 725,000 persons—64 percent of whom are children or women of child-bearing age—have lost services at community health centers due to spending cuts.

The fund's report also charges that cutbacks have resulted in higher infant mortality rates in Alabama, Maine, Michigan and Ohio.

Said Edelman: "It boils down to what we think is important in this country—whether we think healthy babies and mothers are more important than defense spending."

Company-paid employee health plans are the latest victims of our sick economy. With cash tight, more and more businesses are reducing benefits, imposing higher deductibles and forcing employees to contribute more of their own money. U.S. Steel has cut all eye-care coverage for 27,000 workers. Other firms are refusing to pick up the entire tab for x-rays. And things could get worse: a recent survey of 800 major concerns showed one in five is contemplating restricting health coverage.

Cuts in federal subsidies for school lunches have fed a boom in the lunch box business. That's the word from Aladdin Industries, which reports lunch box sales doubled last year. Price-conscious parents are packing it in with lunches prepared at home, and the "character line," featuring the likes of E.T. or Miss Piggy, has become a status symbol among kids.

Many of the nation's colleges, faced with funding cutbacks and budget deficits, aren't waiting until next year to hike tuition. Colleges from California to New York are boosting fees mid-year, and students aren't happy about it. According to Jamie MacKenzie of the Missouri Students Association, most students will have a tough time coming up with the cash. Says MacKenzie: "College is

something you plan to pay for months or even years in advance, not a spur-of-the-moment decision." Other student leaders are even more adamant about fighting the hikes. U.S. Student Association chair Janice Fine says the mid-year increases "show a complete and total lack of responsibility on the part of administrators and governments."

The sexes

An international conference on third world women and feminist issues will be held at the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana April 9-13. Participants from over ten countries will discuss colonization, resistance and international women's movements. Info: 217-333-3137.

Nine-to-Five, the national office worker's organization, will be surveying clerical workers across the country in the coming weeks. The workers -- who are mostly women -- will be asked their opinions about equal job rights, training opportunities, hiring and promotion practices and office safety. Janice Blood, of the group's Boston office, says the survey is aimed at finding out what are the best -- and the worst -- employment policies in effect in the 1980s. To join in the survey contact your local Nine to Five organization or write to Nine to Five, 1224 Huron St., Cleveland OH 44115.

The League of Women Voters has figured out that only four percent of the 320,000 highway construction jobs that will be purportedly provided by the new gas tax will go to women.

The League of Women Voters, after years of ducking the issue, has finally announced that it supports women's right to have abortions.

Despite the sexual revolution, a new survey indicates most American women do *not* believe that sex before marriage is acceptable. The independent study of one thousand women, which was commissioned by *Glamour* magazine, also found most respondents don't believe a woman should automatically get custody of children after divorce. Among the other results: seven out of ten American women are pro-choice on the abortion issue, two-thirds feel women should stay at home if they have preschool children, and more than half believe we are closer to World War III than we were a year ago.

In a distinct shift from past attitudes, most young Americans now see marriage as an option that's no better or worse than being single. That's the conclusion of a new study, which looked at changing attitudes toward marriage among 900 Detroit-area families. According to the survey, one-fourth of the young adults interviewed said it wouldn't bother them at all if they didn't marry. Forty percent of the

Jobs with peace

In December five members of Congress held a press conference in Washington DC to call on Congress to make more money available for jobs and social programs by reducing the tax dollars spent on the military. They supported a National Jobs with Peace Week from April 10-16, 1983.

In last November's election, Jobs with Peace referenda passed by large margins everywhere they were on the ballot. This included more than 50 cities and towns including Milwaukee, Lansing, Pittsburgh and San Jose, CA.

Already 52 Congressmen are co-sponsors of a House Resolution which addresses this message from voters. The Resolution recognizes that US cities

are in desperate need of federal action on jobs for their residents and that military spending generates fewer jobs per dollar than other federal spending.

During National Jobs with Peace Week in April, community groups will ask their city councils to call on Congress to cut military spending and return tax dollars to their community. Educational efforts for adults and development of curriculum materials for schools will be another focus.

For more information on this week of education and action, write or call: Jobs with Peace National Network, 2940 16th St., Room B-1, San Francisco, CA 94103 (telephone 415/558-8615).

—Washington Peace Center newsletter

mothers in the study said they don't care whether their children get married. The survey also found that youth expect to marry later than their counterparts of 20 years ago. Nearly half the women interviewed said it's important to work a year or two before marriage, and that marriage shouldn't interfere with education or career plans.

* * *

Women accounted for more than half the nearly 1400 federal layoffs that occurred between April and June of 1982, according to the Federal Government Service Task Force. That's despite the fact that women comprise less than one-third of the federal work force.

In addition, more than one-third of those receiving their pink slips were minorities, although minorities represent less than one-fifth of federal employees.

* * *

A national survey of 1400 women revealed one-fifth did not list their numbers in the phone book—largely out of concern for their safety. The old dodge of listing just a last name and initial doesn't work anymore—police say it's a dead giveaway that a woman is living alone.

* * *

According to a recent psychological survey, every adult male questioned put himself in the top half of the population when it came to getting along with others. Sixty percent put themselves in the top 10 percent, and 25 percent tried to squeeze into the top one percent. Even in an area where self-deception should be more difficult, 60 percent said they were in the top 25 percent in terms of athletic ability.

* * *

"Traditional" sex roles are becoming obsolete, according to the preliminary results of a study of students in seven eastern private colleges. Only three percent of the 2200 women questioned are currently interested in pursuing "traditional" women's careers, such as teaching, nursing or social work. Instead, more women are interested in law, medicine and business. Four-hundred men were also surveyed, and about one-third of them say they would like to stay home or work part-time when their children are young. Says study director Diana Zuckerman, "these students are not thinking in terms of sex roles."

* * *

The National Center for Education Statistics reports that the average male college teacher in 1980-81 received \$4,300 more dollars in wages than the average female instructor. Seventy percent of the male teachers were tenured, while fewer than half of the women were.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission reports, meanwhile, that over 30,000 complaints have been filed of sex discrimination in higher education.

* * *

Judy Fountain, Co-Chair of the National Coalition for Campus Child Care, reports that 40 percent of all two and four year campuses have instituted some kind of child care facilities.

Media

Here's a new reason to get cable TV—next spring the recently formed Vanguard Network will offer three and a half hours of "liberal point of view" programs each week in an effort to counter the onslaught of "New Right" television.

Former Carter administration member Thomas Belford is president of the cable network, which Belford says is now in the midst of amassing "a group of potential users and a sum of seed money . . . to get the thing launched."

The project is endorsed by such groups as the Women's Legal Defense Fund, the Sierra Club, People for the American Way, and the American Civil Liberties Union.

* * *

"Lite" and "Bold" are the names of two separate editions of the magazine "Co-Evolution Quarterly." Publisher Stewart Brand says he wants to supply his readers with two choices: a cleaned-up version and one with "additional material that is considerably racier." Brand says some people had objected to the "sexual stuff" in his publication, but they appear to be a minority: only ten percent of subscribers have expressed a preference for the "Lite" version.

* * *

Justice

California prison authorities say they've had dramatic success in cutting the re-arrest rate of juvenile criminals—just by helping them see straight.

Classifieds

(Classifieds are five cents a word payable in advance. Mail to DC Gazette, 1739 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20009]

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Optometrist Stanley Kaseno screened more than a thousand inmates at the San Bernardino Juvenile Facility, and found 96 percent had vision problems. Kaseno says most of the juvenile delinquents had above-average intelligence but were frustrated by their poor eyesight. By treating their problems, Kaseno says he was able to raise their reading skills four grade levels, increase their IQ's, raise their self-esteem and give them "a more positive value system." The result: the re-arrest rate dropped from 50 percent to 10 percent.

You might think the juvenile crime rate in America is going up, but you'd be wrong. A soon-to-be released study by the American Justice Institute says that, except for a slight rise in 1978, crimes by young people have dropped every year since 1975. Despite the results of this and other studies, a survey last April found 87 percent of Americans believe juvenile crime has been rising sharply and steadily. Juveniles do, however, account for more than their share of arrests. In 1980, kids under-18 accounted for 28 percent of the population, and 40 percent of the arrests—most of them for petty crimes.

Shop talk

The Older Women's League will move its headquarters to Washington. The Oakland, California-based league, which was founded by Tish Sommers and Laurie Shields two years ago, is moving to the capital because—in the founders' words—"that's where the action is."

Shields and Sommers say they will continue organizing women on the west coast from their Oakland office, and that OWL's new executive director, Shirley Sandage, will take up the job of drawing the administration's attention to the situation of older women in America—a situation which is frequently one of poverty.

OWL's new national headquarters plans to start driving its message home with a March demonstration by older women in front of the Social Security headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland. Women at that demonstration plan to push supermarket baskets in front of the building to show how little food their Social Security checks can buy.

Environment

James Alleman is a man with a vision. He sees houses, office buildings, whole cities, built from... sewer sludge. Alleman, an engineering professor at Purdue University, says sludge is an ideal building material. Bricks made from it, he insists, are superior to those made from clay or shale, and they look and smell just the same. So far, however, he hasn't found any takers. "The problem isn't technology," he says. "It's public relations."

While everyone was waiting for that Soviet nuclear satellite to come tumbling down from space, word was leaking out of a far more serious accident involving a U.S. satellite. According to *Science* magazine, back in April, 1964, a navigational satellite launched from Vandenburg Air Force Base in California failed to reach orbit and disintegrated over the Indian Ocean. On board was a nuclear generator fueled with about two pounds of highly-toxic plutonium-238. The result was a three-fold increase in plutonium-238 contamination of the atmosphere. Unlike the breakup of a Soviet nuclear satellite in Canada four years ago, the U.S. accident received no publicity at the time.

The nation's demand for electric power dropped this year for the first time since 1945, according to industry figures just released. The sudden decline in peak power loads caught industry forecasters by surprise, and their failure to predict the decline could prove costly to consumers, according to energy analysts at the Environmental Action Foundation.

Electric utilities had predicted a 2 to 3 percent increase in the summer peak for 1982 despite the sluggish economy. The unexpected drop in electrical demand left U.S. utilities with a 39-percent surplus in generating capacity, their largest so-called "reserve margin" in more than 40 years. Ironically,

the new figures were disclosed just as administration officials were preparing an initiative to speed up power plant construction.

The world's first underground "skyscraper"—complete with periscopes—is being built at the University of Minnesota. The 7-story Civil and Mineral Engineering Building extends 110-feet below the surface, with only 5-percent of the building visible above ground. The "roof" will be landscaped and terraced, preserving green space. According to University officials, the 17-million dollar structure will be cheap to heat and air condition, thanks to the insulating bedrock. But it's the "new daylighting technology," says architect David Bennett, that's generated the most interest. Through a system of skylights, lenses and periscopes, the changing street scene outside the building is piped down to workers below. "It's like a TV screen," says Bennett. "Only real."

California has gotten the green light to computerize its traffic signals. The state energy department says that within four years, it hopes to synchronize California's 20-thousand stoplights to improve the flow of traffic through urban areas. The idea is to cut down gas consumption: estimates are the coordinated signals will save drivers 11-billion stops, 150-million gallons of fuel and 133-million hours of travel time a year.

International

President Reagan's immediate rejection of a new Soviet proposal on European medium-range missiles has been sharply criticized today by SANE.

"This Administration isn't interested in arms control in Europe or anywhere else," charged SANE's Executive Director David Cortright. "By its refusal to compromise on the so-called zero op-

Alternatives to Imprisonment

Our reliance on prisons, and the amount of resources we give that failing system, should be a national embarrassment. Prisons are what Ivan Illich calls "iatrogenic"—the apparent solution to the problem exacerbates the situation. Yet, despite the deficiencies of prison, in the last decade, there has been an enduring and growing theme that prison is the only choice for law violators. This conclusion is wrong; there are alternatives to incarceration.

Hidden under the avalanche of political rhetoric concerning the increased use of prison, is the fact that many alternative programs to imprisonment have been successful. One such project is operated by the National Center on Institutions and Alternatives (NCIA), a non-profit organization which develops alternative programs across the nation.

Such sanctions are more humane, less costly, and superior in terms of victim and social restitution.

Since 1977, NCIA has been able to convince judges at the federal, state, and local level to utilize non-custodial sentences with a high degree of proven success. NCIA's staff provides judges, probation officers, and attorneys with detailed pre-sentence reports. These reports outline a pre-developed sentencing program, fully documented and supported by a legal, social, and psychological rationale.

NCIA's programs range from fairly restrictive work-release programs and halfway houses to the more permissive options of weekends in jail, community supervision, public service stints and restitution schemes. Such sanctions are more humane, less costly, and superior in terms of victim and social restitution than is a period of time spent in an institution.

NCIA has consciously and methodically focused on offenders at the "deep end" of the system.

NCIA has consciously and methodically focused on offenders at the "deep end" of the system. Approximately 95 per cent of our work is with felons; 70

per cent are indigent; and 40 per cent of them have committed violent crimes. Working primarily with a prison bound clientele is to NCIA's credit. There are many so-called alternative programs which generally handle lesser offenders, those who most likely were not headed for jail in the first place. The result is that the number of those whose lives are controlled by the criminal justice system is greatly expanded.

Silber, Feely and Associates of New Haven, recently completed a study for the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation which determined that approximately 85 per cent of the offenders participating in programs designed by NCIA (over 600 individuals) were successful in the community after disposition. If a program can be successfully implemented with this population it can have a significant impact on the whole criminal justice system.

The fundamental principles underlying alternatives, as NCIA views them, are selectively simple: (1) there have to be effective controls on the defendant; (2) there has to be significant restitution; and (3) there must be some type of punishment imposed by the court. These three principles dovetail closely with the court's sentencing goals of public protection, rehabilitation, and deterrence.

The acceptance of the NCIA sentencing project by the legal community and the courts has been a key to its success.

The acceptance of the NCIA sentencing project by the legal community and the courts has been a key to its success, and a slap in the face to those who claim prison is the only answer for convicted felons. Alternative sentencing, used properly, can help assure comprehensive service and treatment to the offender, while keeping public safety and restitution in focus. It may also help reduce our country's overreliance on a counter-productive penal system.

—Joel A. Sickler
National Center on Institutions
and Alternatives

For further information contact NCIA, 814 North Saint Asaph St., Alexandria, VA 22314; 703/684-0373 or 800/368-3162.

—Jericho

tion after a full year of fruitless negotiations, the Reagan Administration is guaranteeing the failure of the Geneva talks."

SANE released an analysis showing that Soviet missile strength in Europe would be reduced to its lowest point since the 1960's under the terms of the December 21 proposal. In exchange, NATO is being asked to cancel its planned deployment of 572 cruise and Pershing II missiles, without giving up any of its existing forces.

"We're not endorsing the Soviet proposal," added Cortright. "SANE's position is that the huge nuclear stockpiles maintained by NATO and the Warsaw Pact should be cut across the board, leading ultimately to a nuclear-free Europe.

"But we do think it's a real mistake for the President to reject a serious and reasonable Soviet proposal out of hand, when the citizens of Western Europe and the U.S. are demanding an end to the arms race."

Three hundred Scandinavian women who last year toured the Soviet Union campaigning for world peace, this year are planning to take that same message to Washington.

The women, who represent women's peace groups in Norway, Denmark, Finland and Sweden, have decided to fly to New York next June around the anniversary of last year's massive disarmament demonstration at the United Nations. From New York, they intend to walk to Washington to let the government of the United States know about their concern over the arms race, just as they let Moscow know last year. The women have asked Russian women peace activists they met on last year's peace tour to make the march along with them.

While the Scandinavian women are in the United States, a group of American peace activists hope to be leading a second women's peace tour through the Soviet Union. Lay minister Rosemary Matson, of Women to End War in the World, says she wants to bring another group of American women to meet their Soviet counterparts.

Matson says last fall some twenty American women met with over 150 Soviet women during a five-city tour of Russia. Matson says while the women her group met with did not belong to illegally-operating organizations, their reluctance to break their country's laws did not mean they were not genuinely concerned with peace. Matson notes: "It's a closed country; they do not have the freedom that we do." She adds, however, that the Soviets experienced millions of casualties during the Second World War and "they live in constant fear of another war on their soil." The concern of the Soviet women over the arms race, Matson said, struck her as "very authentic."

New figures show President Reagan's military build-up has all but wiped out his attempts to trim the federal bureaucracy. The Office of Personnel Management says, despite massive cutbacks in civilian agencies, the overall size of the government diminished by only 18 people in the year-and-a-half since Reagan took office. So what is the administration doing about it? For one thing, the OPM has stopped listing manpower headcounts in its press releases.

While the U.S.-backed agrarian reform in El Salvador disintegrates in the wake of continued killings of cooperative members by the military, a profound yet peaceful transformation is taking place in Nicaragua's countryside, according to a study released by the San Francisco-based Institute for Food and Development Policy.

"The changes in Nicaragua's food and agriculture system are having a far-reaching effect on the poor majority," stated Dr. Joseph Collins, author of *What Difference Could A Revolution Make? Food and Farming in the New Nicaragua* with Frances Moore Lappe and Nick Allen.

"In the third year of its production-oriented agrarian reform, Nicaragua achieved virtual self-sufficiency in basic foods, while increasing export crop production," continued Collins. "More than 45,000 landless farmworkers have gained access to lands where they can grow food for their own consumption."

Today, Nicaragua's total food consumption is up 40 percent since before Somoza. Though unprecedented floods followed by serious drought led to the importation of some foods, according to the study, the base has been laid for a self-reliant food system in which every Nicaraguan will be able to eat decently.

"To appreciate what has been achieved, we need only recall that under the Somoza dictatorship, more than half of Nicaragua's children were undernourished," Collins pointed out. "A mere handful of landowners—fewer than 2 percent—had taken control of 40 percent of Nicaragua's farm land. Instead of producing basic foods, these estates produced export crops—cotton, sugar, beef, coffee—while farm laborers could not afford even a minimum diet."

"Nicaragua's innovative approach to agrarian reform reflects the revolution's commitment to private property," Collins said. "Fully 80 percent of agricultural production is in private hands. In fact, the most dynamic sector in Nicaragua's food system is the small private farmers and ranchers, encouraged by inexpensive credit and guaranteed prices."

Though there is no ceiling on the size of individual land holdings, Nicaragua's agrarian reform law states that land ownership carries a responsibility to produce. Idle or underworked land can be turned over to landless peasants. Even some state farms, formerly properties belonging to the Somozas, have been turned over to peasant producers because the government judged they could use the land more efficiently.

Because of the land reform, people in the countryside, where hunger had been most widespread, have more to eat today, Collins found.

"In Nicaragua's cities, hard hit by the economic crisis affecting all of Central America, those without steady jobs are probably not eating better than before," observed Collins. "The government, however, has worked with private food merchants to keep the prices of basic foods the lowest in all of Central America."

What Difference Could A Revolution Make? grew out of Joseph Collins' experiences as an unpaid advisor to Nicaragua's Ministry of Agriculture. Over the past three years he has visited Nicaragua regularly, traveling throughout the countryside, consulting with government officials, and talking with the people.

"Though the Sandinistas have made serious mistakes, such as encouraging the production of a high-yielding variety of bean which Nicaraguans did not find to their taste, they've learned from these mistakes," said Collins. "I've also been impressed by the freedom Nicaraguans obviously feel to speak up and make demands—in sharp contrast to the silence and fear I've experienced in the Salvadoran countryside."

"Unfortunately, the Reagan administration, instead of encouraging the positive steps taken by the Sandinista government, has chosen to exaggerate to the point of distortion the revolution's shortcomings and to pursue a destabilization campaign reminiscent of U.S. actions against Allende's Chile," Collins observed.

In addition to *What Difference Could a Revolution Make?* the Institute for Food and Development Policy has published a companion volume, *Now We Can Speak: A Journey Through the New Nicaragua* by Frances Moore Lappe and Joseph Collins. *Now We Can Speak* combines photographs of daily life in Nicaragua and interviews with ordinary Nicaraguans on how the revolution has changed their lives: their successes, their disappointments, and their hopes for the future.

What Difference Could a Revolution Make? (\$4.95) and *Now We Can Speak* (\$4.95) are both available from the Institute for Food and Development Policy, 1885 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

Minorities

Citing a list of nearly a thousand violent racist and anti-semitic acts—including death threats, destruction of property, assaults, shootings, whippings, bombings, and even murder, the National Anti-Klan Network has announced a national campaign to press for swift federal prosecution of Klansmen, Nazis and others committing such acts.

The Network, now three years old, has launched the 1983 campaign in order to create public pressure on federal authorities to crack down on racially-motivated and anti-semitic violence.

Highly critical of the tiny number (less than 20)

Memo to public interest groups & progressive organizations

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prosecutions taken by the U.S. Justice Department in contrast to the nearly 500 documented incidents of Klan violence and nearly 500 more of what they term "random racist violence," the Network hopes that its campaign will make stopping such violence a "top priority on the Nation's agenda."

The rationale for such a low prosecution rate by Justice Department officials, says the Network, is that they only claim jurisdiction in cases if the victim is actually engaged in what the Feds call a "specifically protected activity"—meaning voting, using a public facility, etc.

Klan opponents as well as noted constitutional law experts content that *all* racially-motivated and anti-semitic violence is aimed at depriving blacks, Jews and others—as a whole—of their constitutional rights.

"The Attorney General claims to have very limited jurisdiction in these cases of racist terror," said Network Chair C.T. Vivian. "But we know the laws are on the books and if black people do not have a 'federally protected *right to life*' then every other civil right stands in grave jeopardy. The posture of the federal government is tantamount to condoning Klan violence."

The Network's 1983 Campaign will consist of a mass petition drive to collect thousands of signatures demanding immediate federal action. It will continue through the end of July. The petitions will be delivered to President Reagan and Attorney General William French Smith during the 20th anniversary activities for the historic 1963 March on Washington in August.

* * *

The National Urban League reports that the personal income of blacks is declining and the current depression will likely widen the income gap between blacks and whites to pre-1960 levels. Meanwhile, the living standard of upper-income blacks increased significantly in recent years widening the intra-racial gap in income.

Economics

Interest rates would be reduced for first-time homebuyers under legislation introduced by Sen Charles Mathias. Under the Homebuyers Assistance Act, high interest rates would be partially deferred until the owner's income increases or upon resale or refinancing of the house. Mathias said the measure provides for the interest rate to be "bought down" to as low as seven percent by HUD through the Government National Mortgage Association. HUD would determine the interest rate level based on the home buyer's income and ability to pay. The proposed legislation calls for a

TOPICS Cont'd

enraged me. I made some quotes that I wish I could say over. But again, they're not malicious.

"I used to work Broad Street on the New Year's Day Parade, and all the queens would come up to me and kiss me. They were my friends."

When two of the politicians most despised by everyone to the left of John Glenn make such a dramatic shift in their political direction it is worthy of more attention than it has received. Whatever Wallace and Rizzo are today, it is not what they were ten years ago and it doesn't help to understand their present situation to refuse to recognize it. After all, think how different things would be if Ronald Reagan would follow suit.

maximum annual income of \$30,000. This income limitation could be increased to \$37,000 in higher cost areas.

Under the measure, which Mathias describes as "self-financing," the buyer's payment would be adjusted annually so that costs equal at least 25 percent of the buyer's income. The

ultimate cost would be nothing for the government since the rate reductions would be a lien against the property for up to 12 years or until the house was sold. -- HOUSING TRENDS

Individual citizens are shouldering an increasing portion of the federal tax bill, according to a new

Friends at Court

Here's how ADA rated the various Democratic presidential hopefuls and potential hopefuls who served in Congress last session:

95%: Alan Cranston, Gary Hart
85%: Dale Bumpers, Morris Udall
70%: John Glenn
55%: Hollings

Here's a list by state of senators who rated 80% or higher in ADA's annual scorecard on Congress. (Note: the absence of Senator Kennedy is due to his frequent absences on key votes.):

ARKANSAS: Bumpers
CALIFORNIA: Cranston
COLORADO: Hart
CONNECTICUT: Dodd
DELAWARE: Biden
HAWAII: Matsunaga
ILLINOIS: Dixon
MAINE: Mitchell
MARYLAND: Sarbanes
MASSACHUSETTS: Tsongas
MICHIGAN: Levi, Riegle
MISSOURI: Eagleton
MONTANA: Baucus
NEW JERSEY: Bradley
NEW YORK: Moynihan
OHIO: Metzenbaum
RHODE ISLAND: Pell, Chafee
VERMONT: Leahy

A further note: Chafee is the only Republican to make the list. Among Republicans mentioned as presidential hopefuls, Dole scored 15% and Baker 5%. It is also interesting that Tsongas and Moynihan -- sometimes referred to as neo-liberals, scored 95% each. According to the ADA breakdown, the Senate was 34% liberal, 21% moderate and 45% conservative.

Here's a list by state of those representatives who rated 80% or higher in the ADA scorecard for last year:

ARIZONA: Udall
CALIFORNIA: Matsui, Fazio, P. Burton, G. Miller, Dellums, Stark, Edwards, Lantos, Beilenson, Mineta, Waxman, Royhal, Dixon, Martinez
COLORADO: Schroeder, Wirth
CONNECTICUT: Kennelly, Gejdenson, McKinney, Batchford
FLORIDA: Lehman
ILLINOIS: Washington, Russo, C. Collins, Rostenkowski
INDIANA: Fithian, Sharp, Jacobs
IOWA: N. Smith, Harkin, Bedell
MARYLAND: Mikulski, P. Mitchell
MASSACHUSETTS: Conte, Boland, Early, Frank, Shannon, Mavpoules, Markey, Moakley, Heckler, Donnelly, Studds
MICHIGAN: Conyers, Wolpe, Crockett, W. Ford, Dingell, Broadhead
MINNESOTA: Vento, Sabo, Oberstar
MONTANA: P. Williams
NEW JERSEY: Florio, Hughes, Howard, Hollenbeck, Rodino, Minish, Guarini, Dwyer
NEW YORK: Downey, Addabbo, Rosenthal, Scheur, Solarz, Richmond, Schumer, Rangel, Weiss, Garcia, Bingham, Peyser, Ottinger, McHugh, Lafalce, Nowak, Lundine
NORTH DAKOTA: Dorgan
OHIO: Shamansky, Seiberling, Wylie
OREGON: Aucoin, Wyden, Weaver
PENNSYLVANIA: Foglietta, Gray, Edgar, W. Coyne, Walgren
RHODE ISLAND: St. Germain, Schneider
SOUTH DAKOTA: Daschle
TENNESSEE: H. Ford
TEXAS: Leland
WASHINGTON: Swift, Lowry
WISCONSIN: Aspin, Kastenmeier, Reuss, Obey

congressional study. Personal income taxes have jumped from 39 to 47 percent of federal revenues, while corporate taxes have dropped from 28 to 11 percent. The balance of government receipts comes from user and excise levies and social security contributions. The congressional study also showed that businesses are being taxed at wildly different rates. Commercial banks, for example, pay only 2.3% on US income, oil companies are

tapped for less than four percent, while pharmaceutical firms cough up nearly 36 percent.

Politics

Although you may have read that voter participation was up in the last election, Public Opinion magazine says it ain't so. In fact, says PO, the 35.7 turnout was about the second or third lowest since World War II.

One of the more interesting solutions to the complex problem of reforming campaign financing is known as the Wisconsin Plan. Under Wisconsin's system, candidates get one-to-one matching funds up to a limit if they restrict their fund raising to individual donors and contributions to a certain amount. If one of the candidates rejects the public funds, then his or her opponent gets a two-to-one match with no spending limit.

Squatters Movement Mushrooms

Poor, homeless families have claimed more than 250 abandoned houses in 15 cities in an effort to pressure the Reagan administration to solve the nation's housing crisis, according to leaders of a coalition of community groups which advocate housing rights. Spokespersons for the Association of Communities Organized for Reform Now (ACORN) say the "squatters" are part of the first coordinated nationwide grass roots protest to dramatize the housing concerns of the poor. They say the Reagan administration has ignored their housing needs so ACORN initiated a squatters campaign to convey four national demands to the government. ACORN wants:

- placement of all vacant houses into homesteading programs for low and moderate income people;
- termination of all foreclosures due to unemployment, illness or other circumstances beyond the homeowner's control;
- repair, maintenance and rental of all government-owned and subsidized housing units;
- guarantees against displacement by requiring all new housing developments and redevelopment projects to include units affordable to low and moderate income families.

The squatter's campaign operates on two different levels. The major emphasis is to continue to press for establishment of low income homesteading programs, according to Madeline Adamson, ACORN's director of Public Information. "ACORN will be working during the next session of Congress for legislation to reform the federal homesteading program and reorient it toward low income homesteading," Adamson said. Moreover, she added, ACORN wants the homesteading program to enable cities to buy private housing stock, which they said accounts for many of the abandoned homes in cities across the country. At the present, funds are only provided for cities to take over federally owned housing for the homesteading program.

According to ACORN officials, many of the "illegally occupied" houses have been sitting empty while millions of people search for decent, affordable housing. HUD owns more than 18,000 of these abandoned houses nationwide, but has resisted efforts to make use of them, ACORN leaders said. So ACORN squatters took matters into their own hands, tore off the boards and moved into vacant houses in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Lansing, St. Louis, Boston, Tulsa, Atlanta, Houston, Fort Worth, Dallas, Columbia, Phoenix, Columbia and Jacksonville.

Members of the activist group have been arrested in cities across the country while fighting for decent housing. ACORN reports that six people were arrested in Pittsburgh for helping a squatter move back into an abandoned house. In St. Louis, the mayor had 11 members arrested when they protested the city's refusal to give abandoned homes to homesteaders. And, according to ACORN, HUD is responsible for 19 arrests, including four squatters trying to occupy HUD houses in Phoenix and Dallas, and 15 members sitting in at HUD offices in Columbus and Detroit.

ACORN kicked off the squatters campaign in Washington, D.C. last June. Some 250 members from 12 cities converged on the Ellipse where they set up a "Reagan Ranch" in the shadow of the White House to focus national attention on the housing plight of the poor and to dramatize and protest the "new depression Reaganomics is causing," leaders said. They pitched 50 tents, elected a Tent City Council to govern the camp and provide security, and prepared for three days of activities which included testifying before the House Subcommittee on Housing, chaired by Rep. Henry Gonzalez (D-Tex.) and meeting with Philip Abrams, then HUD's General Deputy Assistant Secretary for housing.

At a rally, Gonzalez told the squatters, "There is a housing crisis in America. You people are living it every day. But by fighting back in your cities you have become pioneers with a solution—homesteading. You are the wave of the future." He pointed out that some 1.1 million people in the United States who are classified as poor, pay more than 30 percent of their income to rent and live in substandard housing. "An awful lot of those people could be housed reasonably well if they were allowed to take over vacant and abandoned homes," Gonzalez reasoned.

During hearings before Gonzalez' committee squatters told a litany of stories about their search for decent, low cost housing:

- Sherry Kerley told of her decision to move into an abandoned house in Lansing and become that city's first squatter. Kerley, who has three small children ranging in age from 18 months to 13 years, said she became a squatter because she wanted a "stable home" for her children, with a yard and a bedroom for each child.
- Calvin Cook of St. Louis, who spent nearly a year trying to find an adequate house for his family of seven to live in, acknowledged that squatting is illegal in most states and municipalities. But he said, "Squatters are not

criminals. We are law abiding citizens who want to improve our community and who need a place to live. . . ." Cook said squatters are left no choice faced with an administration that ignores the housing problem. He said St. Louis "is a city that is criminal for letting 5,000 houses sit empty while families are crying for houses."

- Norman Roland, a laid off worker and his wife brought a van load of people from Columbus. Roland told the Subcommittee that "HUD didn't lift a finger to help" when he lost his home through a foreclosure. "My wife didn't ask to be disabled, and nobody asks to be laid off. But, we are asking our elected representatives to get HUD to do its job" of providing Americans with a chance to have decent and affordable housing, he said.
- Clarence Anderson testified that more than eight years of community development block grant money has left nothing but vacant lots, abandoned buildings, high rent developments and condominiums in many Boston neighborhoods. He said CDBG money has been used to subsidize the relocation of large companies to Boston neighborhoods without requiring a commitment from them to hire residents. Anderson, who recently was displaced from his apartment, said federal funds are being used to assist upper income persons in relocating into the city and "moving us out."
- Meanwhile, the Tulsa Urban Renewal Authority has demolished thousands of homes in North Tulsa and refuses to help low and moderate income families find housing, according to the testimony of Karen Skocdopol. " . . . We have people pouring in to Tulsa expecting to find prosperity, and ending up under bridges or under the trees across from City Hall. Something must be done," she said.

Following the congressional hearings, the squatters boarded buses for a trip to HUD headquarters where they were met by police. About 75 of them were allowed to enter the building, where they met with Abrams. The others picketed around the main entrance and chanted "Housing Now" and "The people, united, will never be defeated."

Tent cities sprang up in Boston, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Columbus, Jersey City, St. Louis, Brooklyn, Atlanta, Houston, New Orleans, and Lansing from the beginning of October through election day on Nov. 2, as ACORN stepped up its campaign to take its concerns to the people.

FINDING OUT MORE

COMMUNITY ENERGY COOP REPORT

The Conference on Alternative State & Local Policies has published its long awaited report on energy co-ops. The 225-page volume, "Community Energy Cooperatives: How To Organize and Finance Them" is full of case studies, organizing tips and resources lists. It's available for \$9.95 from CASLP, 2000 Florida Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009.

GENERATING CAPACITY REPORT

While many industry and government sources are warning of blackouts in the 1990s, Congressional Research Service economist Alvin Kaufman thinks we will have plenty of Generating Capacity. His report, "Do We Really Need All Those Electric Plants" (CRS-82-147-5) is available free from any member of Congress.

Former Secrets: Government Records Made Public Through the Freedom of Information Act by Evan Hendricks, 1982, 208 pages.

500 examples of Freedom of Information Act disclosures on: drug safety, nuclear power, fraud and waste in government spending, national security, and government intrusion into political activity.

\$15 from the Campaign for Political Rights, 201 NE Massachusetts Ave., Washington, D.C. 20002.

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BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION FOUNDATION

The Rate Watcher's Guide: How to Shape Up Your Utility's Rate Structure. A comprehensive all-purpose handbook for citizens seeking reform of utility rate structures. Gives strategic advice on how to organize an effective rate-reform campaign. Describes inverted/lifeline rates, peak-load pricing and other reforms favoring conservation. (EAF) \$4.95

Nuclear Power: The Bargain We Can't Afford. A nuts-and-bolts primer on the economics of nuclear energy. Explains why nuclear power causes your electric bills to skyrocket and tells you what you can do about it—through the courts, through citizen organizing, and through your state public service commission. (EAF) \$4.95

Accidents Will Happen: The Case Against Nuclear Power. A must for everyone's library. Twenty fact-filled essays, contributed by senators, physicians, lawyers and organizers confronting industry claims that nuclear power is inexpensive, safe and a needed energy source. They discuss what nuclear power is, how it works, what it actually costs, its health/environmental effects, and alternative forms of energy. (Harper & Row) \$2.50

Taking Charge: A New Look at Public Power. This landmark book tells how citizens can create responsive publicly owned and controlled utilities. Outlines strategies for taking over existing private power companies, as well as reforming the policies of public power systems. (EAF) \$4.95

Consumer's Guide to Cosmetics. An invaluable book for everyone interested in the safety and effectiveness of cosmetics. Explains how make-up and hair preparations work, what chemicals they contain and how you can identify potentially dangerous products. (Anchor Press/Doubleday) \$3.95

The Household Pollutants Guide. Protect yourself and your family. This guide tells how to survey your home for everyday consumer hazards. Twenty-six sections examine consumer products from microwave ovens and noise to detergents, polishes and aerosol sprays. (Anchor Press/Doubleday) \$3.75

Add book postage and handling charge of \$1.00; 50¢ per book over 2 books

Surviving the Energy Crunch. Proves that hard pressed consumers can take on energy problems right in their own communities. This illustrated booklet shows how low-income citizens have found ways to cut energy bills and unemployment in communities like Rochester, NY and San Bernardino, CA.

Filled with photographs of citizen energy activities, the booklet's refreshing style makes it accessible to just about anyone. \$2.50.

Utility Action Guide. Lists all the information packets on particular utility topics as well as the books and resources which are available from EAF's Utility Project. Also lists scores of other books, studies, articles, legal briefs and experts' testimony for people working to reform the electric utility monopolies, fight nuclear power and develop alternative sources of energy. \$2.00

Utility Experts List. Computer-updated listing of more than 300 utility experts whom citizens can hire to help with local energy-reform efforts. Includes economists, scientists, engineers, accountants, organizers, lawyers, and others. \$4.00.

Mail order to: Environmental Action Foundation,
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A SHOCKING BOOK! *G.I. Guinea Pigs* (256 pp.) screams about exposure to Agent Orange and atomic radiation. Send \$7.95 (includes handling) to RECON, P.O. Box 14620, Philadelphia, PA 19134.

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FREE LIST of red-hot radical books about peace and justice around the world. Only for activists. Send 2¢ postage to RECON, P.O. Box 14622, Philadelphia PA 19134.

Thanks to the Coalition for a New Foreign & Military Policy for these items:

With Enough Shovels: Reagan, Bush and Nuclear War—by Robert Scheer. Formerly the editor of *Ramparts*, Scheer documents with taped interviews and published statements the Reagan Administration's conviction that nuclear war is survivable and winnable. Published by Random House. \$14.95.

Last Aid—The Medical Dimensions of Nuclear War—by International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Inc. A collection of articles by American, British, Japanese, and Soviet physicians. Published by W.H. Freeman and Company. \$9.95.

You Can't Hug With Nuclear Arms—Photos from New York's June 12, 1982 Peace Rally and other disarmament demonstrations. From: Institute for Policy Studies, 1901 Q Street, N.W., Wash. D.C. 20009. \$10.95; bulk rates at substantial discount.

The Freeze and Economic Issues Organizing Manual—Includes information on military contracts and areas of the country that will be affected by a Freeze, economic conversion or increased military spending. Available in January, 1983 from: Nuclear Freeze Campaign National Clearinghouse, 4144 Lindell Blvd., Suite 402, St. Louis, MO 63108, 314-533-1169.

The Plutonium Connection and other reprints on proliferation. Write: Critical Mass Resources, P.O. Box 1538, Wash. D.C. 20013. 50¢ for 1-10, 25¢ for 11 or more.

Peace in the Reagan Era—by Richard J. Barnet. Reprinted from "The Progressive," this 16 pg. pamphlet outlines steps for the appropriate exercise of American power to avoid World War III. From: World Peacemakers, 2025 Mass. Ave. N.W., Wash. D.C. 20036. 30¢ each or \$1.30 per dozen plus postage.

Project ELF: Doomsday in the North Country—An article on the world's largest radio transmitter being constructed in northern Michigan and Wisconsin to send messages to nuclear missile submarines. From: Stop Project ELF, 1444 E. Washington, Madison, WI, 53703. Free reprints—donations appreciated.

Guide to Disarmament Media—Descriptions of 26 films, videotapes and slideshows with addresses of distributors. From: Media Network, 208 West 13th St., New York, N.Y. 10011, \$1.00 for single copy, 75¢ for 2-10, 50¢ for 11 or more.

Basic Training: A Consumer's Guide to the Military—A critical look at the military's promises for those considering enlistment. From: The Progressive Foundation, 315 W. Gorham St., Madison, WI 53703. \$2.95 per single, 40% discount for 5 or more copies.

Hostage at Hell's Bottom: The Economy and the Pentagon—A new 19 minute slide show. \$20/week for rental or 70. for purchase. From: Packard Manse Media Project, Box 450, Stoughton, MA 02072. Other slideshows and films also available.

Freeze It! A Citizen's Guide to Reversing the Nuclear Arms Race—A 30 pg. booklet with charts, arguments, resources and a history of the Freeze movement. From: The Norwich Peace Center, Box 283, Emerson House, Norwich, VT 05055. 50¢ each, 35¢ for 10-99, 25¢ for 100 or more.

Nuclear Testing and Comprehensive Test Ban Information—Write: Citizens' Call, 126 South 1400 West, Cedar City, Utah 84720. Free-donations appreciated.

Disarmament Campaigns—An international newsletter on actions against the arms race. From: Disarmament Campaigns, c/o G. Vanderhaar, 3554 Boxdale Apt. 3, Memphis, TN 38118. \$17/year.

The Disarmament Catalogue—Edited by Murray Polner. A collection of political cartoons, articles, and documents with facts and figures detailing the ways in which war has become big business on an international scale. From: The Pilgrim Press, 132 West 31st St., New York, N.Y. 10001. \$12.95 plus 10% postage.

Good Works—A Guide to Social Change Careers—A listing and description of over 450 organizations engaged in social change. From: Good Works, Dept. O, Box 19367, Wash. D.C., 20036. \$15.

What to Tell the Children—An 18 piece packet for educators from: Education Committee, Alameda County Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign, 4042 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94611, \$5. plus \$2.50 for first class mail or \$1.50 for third.

Moral Man and the Nuclear Dilemma Revisited—A well-written one page reprint from "The Church World" giving documentation of the immorality of U.S. foreign policy. From: Promoting Enduring Peace, P.O. Box 103, Woodmont, CT 06460. Free plus postage.

Stop the Apartheid Bomb—A 6 page leaflet describing the history of the U.S.-South Africa nuclear alliance. From: The Washington Office on Africa, 110 Maryland Ave. N.E., Wash. D.C., 20002. 15¢ each for 1-10, 12¢ for 11-50, 10¢ for over 50. Add 35% for postage.

The Caribbean Basin Initiative—A new leaflet. Plus others on the Amarillo Pantex plant, Belau in the Western Pacific where the U.S. plans a nuclear base, and "Beyond Vietnam—A Prophecy for the 80's." From: Clergy and Laity Concerned, 198 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10038.

Automating Apartheid—A 107 pg. book on U.S. computer exports to South Africa and the arms embargo. From: NARMIC/AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA. \$3.50 plus postage—40% discount for 10 or more copies.

Sharing Global Resources and Acceptable Risk?—Two new resources available in either filmstrip or slide show format. From: NARMIC/AFSC, address above. Purchase prices respectively: \$45 and \$50 for filmstrip, \$50 and \$60 for slideshow.

Struggle for Shelter: Third World Perspective—A 20 minute videocassette portraying problems resulting from Third World urbanization. From: The Iowa State University Research Foundation, 315 Beardshear Hall, ISU, Ames, IA 50011. \$75.

U.S. Covert Operations Against Nicaragua: A Public Forum—95 pg. transcript of a May 27, 1982 public forum sponsored by the Campaign for Political Rights and the Coalition for a New Foreign and Military Policy with 11 other organizations. From: Campaign for Political Rights, 201 Mass. Ave., N.E., Wash. D.C. 20002. \$5.

Now We're Awakened—Women in Nicaragua—A 25 minute slideshow with cassette tape. From: National Network in Solidarity with the Nicaraguan People, 930 F St., N.W., Wash., D.C. 20004. Sales: \$75. Rentals: \$25 for institutions, \$15 for individuals and groups. Add \$5. for postage.

Opresion: Tortura y Represion En America—A folio of drawings and writings of distinguished Latin American authors about oppression in their countries (text in Spanish). From: Richard Chartier, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Box 271, Nyack, N.Y. 10960. \$15.

Amnesty International Report 1982—Country-by-country summaries of the abuses of 121 countries. 367 pages. From: Amnesty International USA, 705 G St., S.E., Wash. D.C., 20003. \$6.95.

The CIA and Covert Action—An 8 pg. special report from: Campaign for Political Rights, address above. \$1.

Repression and Resistance—A 350 pg. packet on abuses in the U.S. From: UMVS, 475 Riverside Dr., Rm. 341, New York, N.Y. 10115. Checks payable to General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church. \$10 for single, \$8 for 5 or more more. Add \$1. for postage on single, 30¢ for each additional.

Who's Involved with Hunger—An Organization Guide—A directory of 400 federal, U.N., and private agencies working on hunger issues. From: World Hunger Education Service, 2035 P St., N.W., Wash. D.C., 20036. \$4.

Development Debacle: The World Bank in the Philippines—by Walden Bello, David Kinley, and Elaine Elinson. A detailed account of the devastating impact of World Bank initiatives on the Filipino poor. From: Food First, Institute for Food and Development Policy, 1885 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103. \$6.95.

Women's International Resource Exchange Catalogue—A catalog of Third World reports and analyses (in English and Spanish) from and about Third World women. WIRE Service, 2700 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025. Free.

We Shall Rise Again—a weekly datebook of contemporary inspiration and struggle from Central America. From: Religious Task Force Calendar, 1747 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Wash., D.C., 20009. \$4.50 each; bulk orders \$4.00.

Wall Calendar—poster quality wall calendar (1983). From: Disarmament Resource Center, 942 Market St., Rm 708, San Francisco, CA 94102. \$3.00 each.

Peace and Freedom Cards—an assortment of 12 beautiful cards, original designs. They are suitable for use as note cards, no message inside. Matching envelopes included. From WIN Magazine, Dept. C, 326 Livingston St., Brooklyn, NY 11217. \$4.00 each.

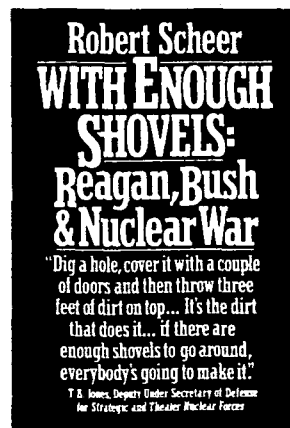
The Time Has Come—A 27 minute sound/color film by NARMIC, a project of the American Friends Service Committee. It brings to life the 750,000 men, women and children who made history in New York City on June 12, 1982. It is an inspiring and memorable experience. Purchase: \$250.00; Rental: \$55.00/week. Video cassette: \$175.00. Video cassette rental: \$55.00. Contact: David Goodman, NARMIC/AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA, 19102, 215-241-7175.

BOOKS

The following reviews are from Sane World, the newsletter of SANE:

With Enough Shovels: Reagan, Bush and Nuclear War, by Robert Scheer (Random House, 283 p., \$14.95). As a reporter for the *Los Angeles Times*, Scheer has conducted interviews over the past two years with top Administration officials and outside experts on strategic policy. The result is an astounding and fully documented picture of Reagan Administration attitudes toward nuclear war. With Reagan's election, writes Scheer, "a Cold War cabal of unreconstructed hawks and neo-hawks... have shifted the emphasis of American foreign policy from the avoidance of nuclear war to the preparation for its possible outbreak." Find out more than you may want to know about Rostow, Perle, Nitze, T.K. Jones, and other US policymakers, right up to Bush and Reagan. This is an exceptionally readable and vitally important book.

Nuclear Culture, by Paul Loeb (Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, Inc., 255 p., \$13.95). For the past three years, Paul Loeb has researched the community of Hanford, Washington—the largest atomic complex in the world. A direct outgrowth of the Manhattan Project, the area contains plutonium-producing reactors, nuclear power plants, waste disposal sites and other nuclear-related facilities. Loeb's book is an excellent and unique look at the people who live and work at Hanford, and the community and culture they have built in the shadow of the atomic age. It's



NUCLEAR CULTURE

LIVING AND WORKING IN THE WORLD'S LARGEST ATOMIC COMPLEX

PAUL LOEB

an impressive, well-written book, with the human angle that's all too often missing from accounts of the nuclear age. For information on mail orders and bulk discounts, please contact Paul Loeb, 5244 University Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105, (206) 527-1946.

Fear at Work, by Richard Kazis and Richard L. Grossman (Pilgrim Press, 273 p., \$10.95). This is a book about job blackmail, a business and government tactic familiar to SANE members who have heard military contractors and the Pentagon threaten job losses if their budgets are cut. **Fear at Work** focuses on the environment and occupational health and safety. "Charging that people must choose between jobs and environmental quality," business and government leaders "have played on fears of unemployment to alienate members of organized labor from their counterparts in the environmental movement." This excellent book sets the record straight, by unveiling corporate tactics, and demonstrating, with complete documentation, that there is no contradiction between employment and maintaining high environmental standards. It's valuable and necessary reading for progressive activists and anyone concerned about jobs and the economy.

RADIO

The Great Atlantic Radio Conspiracy offers a wide variety of tapes on domestic and international issues. These tapes are designed for use by libraries, study groups and community broadcasting stations. For an annotated catalog, send \$1.00 to the Great Atlantic Radio Conspiracy, 2743 Maryland Ave. Baltimore, Md. 21218.

GOOD MONEY

Good Money is the newsletter of social investing and inventing. Subscriptions are \$36 a year from the Center for Economic Revitalization, Box 363 Calais Stage Road, Worcester, Vermont 05682.

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COMPUTERS ON CAMPUS

DAVID GAEDE

Iowa State junior John Sutton is finishing his last papers of the term, hunched over his Apple II Plus microcomputer. Conspiring with a word processing program, he scans his work by touching a few more keys, rearranges a few sentences, and makes some minor last-minute changes.

And when he prepares to turn the homework in, he doesn't collate papers into plastic report covers or pull on boots to trudge through the snow to his instructors' offices.

Instead, he simply tells the computer to send his papers to the university's main computer. In the morning, his teachers will ask the main computer for Sutton's work, and then grade it. Electronically.

At Idaho State, music majors compose and analyze songs on microcomputers. Art students "paint" with special computer graphics tablets that allow them to create video art projects.

At Carnegie-Mellon University, aspiring poets and playwrights consult computer programs to help them with English.

By next fall, you won't be able to enroll at Carnegie-Mellon unless you agree to buy your own IBM Personal Computer.

The long-anticipated campus computer revolution, in other words, has finally begun to reach students.

Computers have been nosing into college libraries and offices for years now, and have been increasingly available to students on many campuses. But just last spring, Harvard students still caught administrators unaware when they lugged word processors into class to take finals. Harvard administrators, like counterparts around the country, had to scramble to draw up ways of regulating student personal computer use, which is quickly outstripping the centralized computer centers becoming common at Harvard.

Indeed, with falling microcomputer costs, more and better software available, and lighter, more-streamlined hardware on the market, 1983 promises to be the year in which micros will begin to change substantially the way students go to college.

"At the risk of being trite, the personal computer will become as much a part of life as the telephone, if not more so," predicts Bruce Schimming, IBM's education industry administrator.

Students are already using computer work stations and their own units to play remote games, carry on electronic conversations, send jokes, and even arrange dates as well as do their work in new ways.

Iowa State's Sutton does his homework on the microcomputer his fraternity—Delta Tau Delta—purchased for its members to use for personal as well as fraternity business.

"We use it for just about anything you can imagine," Sutton boasts. "By spending eight hours of work at the computer, I save 40 hours of study time. And when it comes to doing budget and financial reports for the fraternity, I can do in 20 minutes what used to take days to do manually."

Like many other microcomputers, Delta Tau Delta's is connected through regular telephone lines to the university's main computer, as well as to other national computer networks and data bases, allowing the fraternity members to communicate with other computers across campus or across the nation.

Now, virtually every college requires students to take "computer literacy" courses. Most schools now have campus computing centers, and many are installing micros in dorms, libraries, classrooms, and fraternity houses.

Marquette, for instance, is linking dorm computers to the school's two main computers.

Duke University has installed some 200 IBM Personal Computers in residence halls and other buildings around campus to give students "unlimited access to computers."

Baylor, North Carolina State, Notre Dame, and Illinois State, among many others, are also installing dorm computers.

Students do use them. The University of Oregon has to keep its 15 dorm computer stations open 24-hours-a-day to meet demand.

But the idea of making computers available only

in certain areas—computer centers, dorm stations, or even in fraternity houses—is fast becoming a thing of the past.

Instead, observers say, there will soon be a computer for every student. And colleges will become "wired" so that personal computers can be plugged in and used virtually everywhere on campus.

"In the last five years the number of computer terminals on campus has gone from under 400 to nearly 1000," says Dartmouth computer center Director William Arms, "and we expect that to increase to over 4000 within the next five years."

Dartmouth, like many other schools, is "getting away from the idea of clustering computers together, and moving towards the idea that each individual should have his or her own computer in their dorm or office."

"And when that happens," says IBM's Schimming, "when you suddenly go to a situation where a student can be sitting at a keyboard of his or her own, not just spending four hours per week on a computer at the library or computer center, then you're going to see some dramatic differences in the way things are done."

In a joint experiment with IBM, Carnegie-Mellon is one of the front-runners in the race to become the nation's first "wired campus." CMU freshmen will be required to buy their own computers next fall at an estimated cost of \$750 per year, in addition to their annual \$10,000 tuition.

"By 1985, our goal is to build a network of 7500 personal computers on campus," says CMU spokesman Don Hale. "Each student will purchase his or her own computer and take it with them when they leave."

Drexel University, too, will require all entering freshmen to buy their own computers next year.

"A kid who comes to us next year," explains Bernard Sagik, Drexel Vice President of Academic Affairs, "will graduate in 1988, and will be working

in a world that will be totally involved in information and computer technology. It would be an injustice to deny our students the opportunity to learn how to use this new technology."

Nevertheless, a National Assessment of Education Programs study last year warned that unless more was done to educate students about computers, as many as two million high school graduates would be without the essential skills necessary for employment in the "information society" of the 1990s.

But not everyone is convinced computer literacy should be ranked with reading, writing and arithmetic as one of education's basic aims.

"I just don't think it's necessary for everybody to need to know how to assemble and program a computer," says Robert Kelman, Colorado State's computer science chief. "You don't have to know how a television set works to turn it on and watch a program, and you don't have to know how to program a computer to keep recipes and balance your checkbook on one."

Last spring, moreover, the Committee on Basic Skills Education, a California-based consumer group, warned that many colleges and high schools were being "oversold" on microcomputers.

While there are legitimate needs for personal computers, the group advises, colleges should guard against "computer overkill and the 'bandwagon effect' being promulgated by the microcomputer industry to put costly general purpose computers into virtually every American classroom."

Likewise, Cleveland State education professor John Gallagher cautions, "the use of microcomputers can only be justified if they are doing something which cannot be accomplished by other means. In some instances, I have seen teachers use a \$2000 computer to teach a low level of drill-type learning that could be accomplished with a \$5 pack of flash cards."—CPS

THE WORD OR SYMBOL

EUGENE McCARTHY

If one observes presidential administrations as they come and go, one is likely to discern the emergence of either a word or a phrase as distinguishing the period. Sometimes it is an old word that has been around for a long time, possibly never adequately used, or possibly used and discarded. Sometimes it is a new word, or at least new in its political application. It may be a noun, an adjective, an adverb, some other part of language.

If we go back only as far as the Nixon administration, we can note that it was an administration in which the adjective dominated. Not just any adjective, but the superlative, "greatest," sustained by "first." President Nixon regularly declared that the U.S. was the greatest country, and we, including him, parts of the greatest people. Almost every announcement he made, or event whose passage he observed, from moon landings to walks on the Great (not greatest) China Wall, was noted as an "historic first." So was his resignation.

The Carter administration was heavy into adverbs. The issue was not so much what was done, or tried, or whether marked by success or failure, but the intensity of effort and of feeling. One noun with supporting adjectival use did emerge, however, through the entangling adverbs; that was "compassion." President Carter was marked as a man of "compassion." Lesser politicians attributed this quality to him, and then claimed it as part of their own arsenal of virtues. There was limited competition to establish, or at least claim,

greater compassion, or distinction as to the kind of compassion one possessed or exercised. Distinctions were made between passive and ordinary compassion and a form called "active compassion." Some asserted that their compassion was wide; others, that theirs was deep or deeper. The presidential administration of Jimmy Carter was said to be "caring and compassionate," and carried on "compassionately."

The word (the symbol) that seems to be emerging as the one which may mark the Reagan administration is "zero."

It showed early in the campaign of 1980, with "zero inflation," set as a goal of the administration. It was accepted that hard things would have to be endured to accomplish this objective, and that unemployment would rise or, on the opposite side, employment decline—theoretically, if one followed the curves of the Reagan economists, possibly to zero, with zero employment insuring zero inflation.

The president, as a candidate, also endorsed "zero-based budgeting," as a means of controlling federal deficits. The guiding principle in such budgeting is that one starts over each year at "zero." The difficulty is, or at least seems to be, that it takes a long time to count from zero to one trillion. Consequently the Reagan administration has been operating not on zero based budgets since it came into power, but on continuing resolutions, and the federal debt has risen to new heights, and the bud-

get's been out of balance in greater measure than at any time in our history.

Most recently, the "zero" principle has emerged in defense discussions. The first application was in the term "ground zero," the point at which the full force of nuclear bombs was to be felt. More recently, President Reagan has used the term as part of a new political-strategic position, called the "zero option." The essence of this concept of nuclear confrontation seems to be that unless the Rus-

sians accept our offer relative to nuclear weapons in Europe, all efforts at negotiations will stop. It is this or nothing, and we will be caught in what the New York Times calls the "Zero Dilemma," or possibly between the horns of that Dilemma.

Zero thinking may be taking over. Potentially it may be more dangerous than positive thinking, or negative thinking. It may have begun with the "count-down."

Five, four, three, two, one—blast off," a re-

versal of traditional practice of starting things on an up count—as in one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go. Or in the timing in "Hide and Seek," the count-up, usually to one hundred, with the cry: "Here I come. Ready or not, you shall be caught." The new mathematics may well have to start with a trillion, or megatons, and count down, to get us where the zero based thinkers, in sports, arms, and budget balancing would have us come.

THE FOURTH WORLD

JON STEWART

A fourth world has been added to the old categories of First, Second and Third; it is the Expendable World—the peoples and cultures whom civilization has forsaken.

The point was driven home at the December meeting of the International Peoples' Tribunal on War Crimes, held in Paris. This is the same organization which made major headlines (and influenced public opinion) when it tried the United States for crimes against the Vietnamese people and found this country guilty.

The December "trial" in Paris was an investigation of charges that the Soviet Union was committing crimes against the people of Afghanistan. Detailed testimony and photos were provided in support of the charges by responsible European journalists and French physicians working in Afghanistan. Much of the evidence dealt with Soviet use of chemical warfare and anti-personnel explosives disguised as children's toys. The Tribunal concluded, in the strongest language, that the Soviet Union was guilty of crimes against the Afghan tribes which have resisted Soviet authority.

But how many people in the United States read in their newspapers about the guilty verdict? Virtually none. Even in most of Europe, where the Socialist and Social Democratic parties support the Tribunal, the coverage was sparse.

According to American participants at the Tribunal, the findings were offered to American embassy officials, who dismissed them because they originated from a socialist-sponsored source which had once condemned the United States. To applaud the verdict would have been to show tacit recognition of the credibility of the Tribunal.

Likewise, the entire exercise was largely ignored by both American and West European anti-war forces. For them to condemn the Soviets would be to enhance the position of the Reagan Administra-

tion, which cares little about the Afghan people but cares much about proving Soviet cruelty.

Lost in all this political obfuscation are the facts of the case: that the traditional, tribal peoples of Afghanistan are faced by slaughter and mass exodus to foreign refugee camps. The facts are lost because, in the final analysis, no one really seems to care.

The Afghans are Expendables. Their suffering serves the political interests of the rest of the world. Their continued existence on the outer fringes of civilization is an embarrassment, when not an irritant, in the sophisticated chambers of geopolitics.

And the Afghans are not the only Expendables.

In the violent wars and strife which have racked Latin America in recent years, those who have perished in the greatest numbers have been Indians whose only politics, until recently, were those of survival. "One definition of Indian is to be the victim of violence," says Mexican scholar Guillermo Bonfil. Indeed, in Paraguay and Argentina the name for the indigenous people is *chancho*, meaning "pig." In Brazil, where Indians have the legal status of minor children, at least 83 entire tribes have been exterminated in this century alone, leaving some 270,000 Indians, compared to an estimated seven million at the beginning of the colonial era. In the United States, itself, the native population today totals less than one-third the turn-of-the-century number, and the survivors occupy the bottom of society. The continuing ethnocide of Indians throughout the Americas, especially in Brazil, Guatemala and Mexico, was judged "the worst persecution in the history of mankind" by a 1980 verdict of the People's Tribunal, which met in Rotterdam.

In some ways, the Palestinians are the "Expendables" of the Middle East, a fact dramatically revealed by the Arab world's reluctance to come to their aid during the recent slaughter by Israelis in Lebanon. A people without a land, a nation without a state, the Palestinians remain the dark shadow over the prospects of Arab-Israeli peace. Most of the region appears to have concluded that the future would simply be easier if they didn't exist.

There are others, too: The fiercely independent Kurds, caught in the hateful web of regional rivalries, manipulated by Washington, Moscow, Baghdad, Tehran; the equally independent-minded Hmong tribesmen of Laos; the proud aborigines of Australia.

What do these Expendables have in common? What marks them for extinction? Ironically, they all are the most extraordinary of survivors. The cultures they represent are among the world's oldest, their traditions among the most stubborn. They have survived centuries of exploitation and brutal efforts to integrate them into alien cultures. Deeply conservative, they have mostly resisted the lures of modernization, remaining rooted in their lands and bound to their old ways, many of which the modern world finds barbaric.

The Expendables also have resisted external authority and the trappings of statehood. They live in "nations" and tribes which do not fit into the neat, geo-political molds of modern states. They are obstacles to uniformity, monoculturism, monolingualism, homogeneity of all sorts. They are irritating thorns in the posterior of a conformist world.

And most of them, if not all, sit on lands bearing treasures the rest of the world craves: minerals, oil, gas. Others simply occupy space that somebody else wants.

In a world where justice is the purview and duty of the state, these stateless peoples are the subjects of increasing injustice. The world of law, order and the rules of war holds nothing for them; consequently war and suffering is their inheritance. The Peoples' Tribunal, one of the few forums for justice outside the realm of states, is their court of last appeal. But, unlike in the case of Vietnam, today no one is listening.

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Modern Life...



College Press Service

FIGHTING THE SMEARS

Many organizations critical of the current administration's policies have found it necessary lately to respond to growing efforts by government officials to discredit their activities. The Campaign for Political Rights recently brought together several people who have studied or experienced first hand attacks on political dissent to discuss tactics used and how organizations can respond. Here, as reported in CPR's newsletter, Organizing Notes, are some of the thoughts of the panel:

Victor Navasky placed current efforts to discredit dissent in an historical context. Navasky referred to three stages since World War II: the McCarthy era, characterized by congressional investigating committees; the FBI's Counterintelligence Program (COINTELPRO) of the early sixties and seventies involving the use of electronic surveillance, informants, and other intrusive techniques to harass and disrupt; and the current stage, the Reagan administration, marked by attempts to revive many of the government's investigative powers that were so widely abused in the past.

Navasky referred to the McCarthy-era congressional investigations as "rituals to stigmatize people by labelling them subversives for their political beliefs and their legitimate political activities." He said that at the time, the Left, as the target of the investigations, "internalized the sense of guilt that the stigmatizers were attempting to label them with." As a result, said Navasky, people felt "tainted" by their former political associations. Navasky stated that the government attempted to fragment the Left in this way during the sixties and seventies, and continues to do the same today. The most important lesson, he suggested, was for organizations to unite and to work to defend First Amendment rights.

The Peace Movement

Throughout the meetings, references were made to recent attacks on the peace movement by President Reagan, Jeremiah Denton and their supporters on the far Right. Anne Zill told the audience in New York of her experience in this regard. Last February Zill published a report on foreign affairs groups and their activities to show the "renewed energy and enthusiasm" in the peace and disarmament area. Someone on the Right obtained the memo. It was subsequently cited by Senator Denton in the *Congressional Record* and by *Human Events* and other conservative media, gaining instant notoriety as the "Zill Report."

Speaking about the current attacks on the peace movement, Nancy Ramsey noted that the tactic of isolating activists, mentioned by Victor Navasky, can cause "tremendous damage" on the local level. "It's very scary and difficult when you're in the local community... when an Arkansas housewife... is called a communist by her neighbors and sits there all alone."

Ramsey remarked that propaganda and half-truths spread by groups on the Right quickly get picked up by the local press, making the organizer's job extremely difficult. She referred to a recent Mississippi newspaper article stating that the American Association of University Women (AAUW) was a communist organization; according to Ramsey, the newspaper based its charge on the fact that the AAUW is affiliated with Peace Links, the organization that Senator Jeremiah Denton had claimed earlier was in turn affiliated with Soviet-influenced organizations.

During the discussion that followed Ramsey's remarks in Washington, participant Bob Lawrence stated that his organization, Interchange, and two other groups, Group Research and Americans for Common Sense, have been monitoring the Right's activities in the foreign policy and other areas. Lawrence stated that the Right has for several years attempted to counter what they see as a liberal-dominated media by circulating their own magazines and newspapers, and attempting to publish columns in local papers. He pointed out that many of these magazines and journals are responsible for spreading current attacks.

The Institute for Policy Studies

Peter Weiss described the two year old smear campaign against the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS).

It all started, said Weiss, with the 1980 publication of a novel, *The Spike*, by Arnaud De Borchgrave and Robert Moss. The two authors attempt to mislead readers into thinking that *The Spike* thinly disguises as fiction a real KGB-orchestrated campaign by leftists—particularly a fictitious counterpart of the Institute for Policy Studies—to subvert the US government.

Weiss stated, "It all sounds funny, ridiculous and idiotic. It's not." He said that soon after *The Spike*'s publication, journalists on the Right began to use the book's thesis in serious political articles. At first they publicized in such journals as *Barrons* and *Midstream*, a Jewish monthly. Soon, similar articles appeared in the *Reader's Digest* and the *Wall Street Journal*, a progression that closely parallels the current barrage of attacks on the peace movement.

Weiss stated that based on the IPS experience, he did not feel that today's political climate was hospitable to a return to McCarthyism, largely because the American people remember past atrocities and have developed a "mistrust" of the government in this area.

Federation of Southern Cooperatives

The two year government investigation into the Federation of Southern Cooperatives (FSC) provides an example of how a campaign to discredit can be taken to the extreme. Two representatives of the FSC attended the meetings to

discuss the investigation and share advice on how they dealt with it.

The Alabama-based FSC has for fifteen years helped blacks develop cooperative businesses throughout the rural South, a role which began to upset the established power structure after a period of time, according to FSC Director Charles Prejean. "I see those in power as inheriting a certain sociological frame of reference," Prejean explained. "If folks do not conform to this way of thinking... then it's necessary to remove them or cause them as many difficulties as possible."

According to Prejean, in 1979, about 100 local, regional and state officials met in Sumter County, where the FSC is based, to discuss the FSC. Following that meeting, officials wrote letters to Congress requesting a General Accounting Office (GAO) audit of the group (the FSC received federal funds). A GAO audit was initiated, but the government could find no evidence showing that the FSC had misused funds.

Next, local officials convinced the FBI to investigate the FSC for misusing federal resources. A two-year investigation ensued. FSC staff members were subpoenaed before a federal grand jury, as were hundreds of documents, travel vouchers and cancelled checks.

Describing the investigation, FSC Director of Program Operations John Zippert said that the FBI interviewed about 250 people in four or five states about their association with the FSC. Most of these people had received livestock from the group or assistance in building a greenhouse. According to Zippert, FBI agents even counted pigs on farms and dug holes in greenhouses as part of their probe. In addition, he said that two FBI agents spent six months in a local bank reviewing FSC financial records.

In June 1981, the Justice Department announced it had no evidence of wrong-doing in the FSC case and terminated the investigation.

"Although we won, in some ways we lost," Zippert stated.

"This took a tremendous toll in terms of staff time, lawyers' fees and other costs to the organization."

Both Zippert and Prejean had specific advice for organizations facing similar problems. They recommended that

groups take more time to keep their financial activities in order; align themselves with other political groups; and maintain an openness with membership and staff about any problems that may arise. Zippert said that only five FSC staffers dealt with the investigation, thus allowing the others to continue the Federation's work. Other staff were briefed in periodic meetings. They in turn briefed FSC members and advised them on how to respond to investigators.

When asked about possible legal action against the investigating agencies or local officials, Zippert said that the FSC had seriously considered such an option, but in the end decided against it. Zippert said the decision was made largely due to the financial drain it would entail. In addition, Zippert said that such a lawsuit could be turned against the FSC, forcing them once again to make their records public.

Responding to the Smear

"I think you have to live your life assuming you're going to be attacked in this way—and fight it," Zippert told the audience. All panelists emphasized this point in one way or another, stressing that organizations can most effectively face such attacks when they are united.

Nancy Ramsey suggested that organizations be open and up front with their members and staff by warning them about attempts to discredit their work and helping them find ways to respond. Esther Herst, director of the National Committee Against Repressive Legislation (NCARL), stated this approach was used when NCARL organized against the House UnAmerican Activities Committee (HUAC). "It was necessary to go into every community where HUAC was going to hold a hearing and pull the people together so that they didn't become isolated—so that they were not *persona non grata* to their families, their communities and their workplaces."

Above all, panelists and those who participated in the general discussion emphasized the need for cooperative efforts to uphold political rights and to combat attempts to blunt political debate. — MW

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WANT ANSWERED

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THE DEATH AND LIFE OF MALCOLM X: By Peter Goldman. For this second edition of a major work on one of the most important black leaders of this century, the author, a senior editor of Newsweek, has added a substantial epilogue which argues convincingly that three of the five accomplices in Malcolm X's assassination in 1965 are still free, while a fourth is serving a short sentence for an unrelated offense. Meanwhile, despite the efforts of William Kunstler and others, two men who are probably innocent remain in prison "wasted like pawns sacrificed in somebody else's wild chess game," as one of them puts it. ~~\$7.95~~ ~~\$4.00~~ ~~\$3.00~~ ~~\$7.00~~ \$2.00

THE PRESS

Bob Alperin

The operators of the Three Mile Island nuclear plant are incompetent and falsify documents. The plant's designers knew of the accident-causing problem but said nothing. The plant was "inherently unsafe." The charges against TMI's operators, General Public Utilities, were by Babcock & Wilcox, the plant's designers, who were replying to GPU's \$4 billion dollar damage suit. The mutual recriminations were reported by *Energy Daily* (and subsequently by *Critical Mass*, a Nader-related energy publication).

After almost two months of trial, the *New York Times*' six stories seem to be the most complete coverage in a daily. The *Washington Post* has yet to print a word on the trial, although a major article is planned after the verdict, and an update summary may appear earlier.

Post non-coverage was explained by a top national editor as being a judgment that a very long, highly technical trial would not produce enough of daily reader interest to justify the time and expenses of a top reporter. Having initially defined the problem this way, the *Post* missed the obvious news value of the charges and countercharges. By contrast a *Post* reporter gave daily reports on the Jean Harris murder trial, and the paper gave generously of its space to the sex-filled Pulitzer divorce case. (While hurling epithets at B&W, GPU was asking the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for permission to reopen its other TMI reactor.)

Some highlights reported by the *NY Times* included GPU's claim that a B&W expert, assessing an accident elsewhere about 15 months before TMI, warned there were serious operational defects and that there could be a serious accident if they were not corrected, or at least explained. The information wasn't given to plant operators. GPU said its people acted on readings from B&W equipment that wasn't accurate.

B&W says GPU had the necessary information but was too cheap to close down and repair leaking steam valves. It pointed to the TMI supervisor who testified differently in different places as to the temperature of a crucial valve. The judge noted that whether the very high reading was at first or later it meant an open valve. Asked if he had made the connection, the witness didn't recall.

The suit against the US by Utah residents who say above-ground nuclear testing caused cancer received minimal *Post* coverage: two staff-written summaries (well-done within 28" and 30" confines) and two wire reports. A major story is planned for the verdict. The *Philadelphia Inquirer's* reporter did a 114" (with chart and photos) pre-trial report on expected trial issues and the feelings of the local people.

The Observer (London) succinctly put the plaintiffs' case: residents had far above the national average of cancers, birth defects and miscarriages, yet most are Mormons living a rural existence and abstaining from tobacco, alcohol, and caffeine—a lifestyle associated with almost zero cancer rates. Some material not in the *Post*:

- The MD who heads the Utah Cancer Registry said fallout probably caused 71% of children's leukemia deaths in five counties (AP: *Inquirer*). Dr. John Gofman, former director of the biomedical division of the Lawrence-Livermore Nuclear Laboratory and author of *Radiation and Human Health*, testified that the Atomic Energy Commission tested milk samples in high fallout areas but didn't see if fallout entered the food chain by testing fresh water fish, water, meat, or produce (UPI: *Inquirer*).

- The man who wrote the government milk study revealed it was very limited because of fear that questions about the getting and processing of milk would "alarm an already worried community." The test used couldn't register radioactive iodine, yet earlier witnesses had testified it could collect in the thyroid gland (AP: *Boston Globe*).

- The AEC's measure of fallout didn't consider terrain and weather currents which could create

concentrations 50 to 100 times greater than in the surrounding areas, nor did it recognize that exposure could be lengthened if fallout stuck on clothing or was inhaled (AP: *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*).

- In the 1950s the US told ranchers that the deaths of 4,390 sheep were unrelated to fallout although its own investigators found blister lesions typical of those found from radiation and "extremely high" radiation readings in the thyroids. An agricultural extension agent who sought these studies in 1953 was told they were classified (wire services, *Miami Herald*). A 1956 lawsuit against the US by the ranchers has been ordered retried by the judge who presided over the original trial. He said the government committed "fraud upon the court" by suppressing evidence and pressuring expert witnesses. This duplicity angered many of the normally authority-respecting people of the area (*Inquirer*).

- CBS and USA TODAY were among those reporting the intriguing spectacle of government lawyers arguing there was no fallout-cancer link while Health and Human Services Secretary Schweiker, also in Salt Lake City, told a press conference the tests probably caused the cancers.

- A fine *LA Times* backgrounder noted several related developments. The Veterans Administration linked radiation to cancers in 66 veterans who witnessed test blasts. Thousands of documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act showed government disregard of potential health problems among downwind residents to minimize lawsuits and ensure the tests' continuation. Childhood leukemia was related to fallout by 1964 but the study was suppressed.

An AP (*Inquirer*) survey of eight federal departments' or agencies' travel vouchers found most top level officials fly coach, stay in chain motels giving discounts to the government, and eat inexpensively. (The survey covered a year from April, 1981.) Reagan wanted a 10% cut in the federal travel budget. The Office of Management and Budget said civilian agencies averaged a 16% cut, but the Pentagon's was up 9%, wiping out the overall travel spending cuts.

"N. Ireland election widens political divisions," said an astute *Inquirer* pre-election headline. *Post* coverage reflected US media fascination with the Irish Republican Army and disinterest in the activities and financing of Protestant para-military groups or in the goals and strategies of Protestant politicians.

The *Post's* stress on the election of five IRA members as dooming the assembly is curious since the major Catholic party, the Social Democratic and Labor Party, said before the vote it wouldn't sit in the assembly, and the Protestant parties opposed its stated purpose: power-sharing between the communities. Recalling Britain's insistence that Catholic participation was a pre-condition of her giving power to the assembly, the *Post* wrongly concluded that it's "deliberations are expected to have little effect."

Both major Protestant parties view the assembly as an opportunity to arouse and express majority opinion to head off what they fear most: a deal between the Irish Republic and Britain. Pre-election release of a transcript (of unconfirmed validity) of interviews of an assistant secretary in the Northern Ireland office by an academic researcher fueled those fears: the British Prime Minister recognized the need for the Republic having a say in any solution, perhaps a federal system was the answer; any solution had "to be fudged" and there were many ways to do it (*The Times*, London).

Under the right conditions an assembly initiative could raise tension in Northern Ireland and cause dissension in the Conservative Party. What if, after a particularly heinous IRA act, the assembly asked for the return of the death penalty? Whatever Britain did would inflame one of the Irish communities (*The Observer*, London).

A *Post* headline "Militants on Both Sides Win," was accurate but doubly misleading. True, an IRA leader and Rev. Paisley, head of the Democratic Unionists—the more militant of the two major Protestant parties, were elected. But the IRA had five seats to the SDLP's 14, and Paisley lost his bid to be majority leader. His party won 21 seats, five less than the Official Unionists. The media-ignored nonsectarian Alliance took ten seats.

Post election coverage ignored Northern Ireland's unemployment—22.5% overall, 50% in

some areas (*Inquirer*), nor did it note that IRA votes represented the entry into the electorate of previous non-voters rather than defections from the SDLP. (The *Inquirer* had excellent campaign coverage, a balance of information relating to all sides, historical background, and detailed post-election analysis.)

IRA election activity aided violence in an indirect way if police analyses are valid. The Irish National Liberation Army was virtually defunct until revitalized by "sizeable defections" to it from young IRA members disgusted at IRA preoccupation with the election. The INLA was back with a variety of killings and bombings (*The Observer*).

Polls taken with no elections in sight show majorities of both communities favor power-sharing. Yet politicians basing electoral appeals on longstanding hatred and fear consistently outperform those few who stand on moderation.

News of perhaps a two-month delay in the trial of five Salvadorean national guardsmen charged with killing five US women missionaries appeared on page D9 of the *Post*, its Religion section. Judges were considering dismissing the charges. The author knew the news' significance: the trial was to buttress Reagan's claim that El Salvador was making human rights progress. On the same page was a report that Anglican churches in the US, UK, and Canada protested against a massacre on a farm co-op they sponsored in El Salvador.

Post reporting on this case is inconsistent. Sometimes it does good stories, other times the reader must depend on Mary McGrory for developments ignored by the news columns.

A story of a congressional attack on DC's taxing power basked in whatever limelight the bottom of page A42 affords. A bill exempted a Capitol gift shop from the DC sales tax on non-historical items such as film and cameras. The back tax bill is \$740,000. An alert *Post* editorial gave this topic more prominence.

The *Post's* Metrobus reliability study was great, and Metro deserves credit for cooperating and seeing the data as a possible aid rather than a threat. But, the first sentence and the headline "Metrobus Service Is More Reliable in D.C. Suburbs" gave a distorted impression of a monolithic suburbia. Of the ten worst routes five were entirely in DC, three were between DC and Montgomery County, and the other two were DC to Prince George's County, and all in Maryland. Of the top ten, seven were all Virginia, and single ones operated all DC, DC-Montgomery, and all Montgomery. Perhaps the *Post* will emulate Reagan whose Latin trip taught him those countries weren't all the same.

Starting in Prince George's County, an organization seeking to give support to crime victims and families and influence legislation has expanded to 1400 members and four counties. Symbolizing a concern for crime victims not tied to race or place it invited the family of a slain DC black girl to be guests of honor. The story and picture made the *PG Journal* and local TV news, which have been supportive of the Stephanie Roper Committee. Formed in the aftermath of a particularly brutal rape-murder and light sentences for the perpetrators, it has legislative agenda which includes virtual ending of parole and an opportunity before sentencing for victims and family and friends of crime victims to testify as to the crime's impact on them. This is to offset what's seen as the criminals' monopoly on information and emotion. The *Post's* attention to their proposals came in the form of a "Maryland Weekly" interview with a highly critical ACLU official.

The *Post's* disinterest in the victims of crime isn't rare for liberal media. By failing to address citizen concerns with proposals of their own, or to give both-sided reporting of pending proposals, or even to show empathy, such media may abandon the issue to media and politicians who do not combine a concern about crime with one for civil liberties. A *Post* editorial basically told Mrs. Roper she ought to stop reminding people of her daughter's death and wait until the killers come up for parole. Then she can testify.

Stories missed by the *Post* included:

- Tufts-New England Medical Center scientists

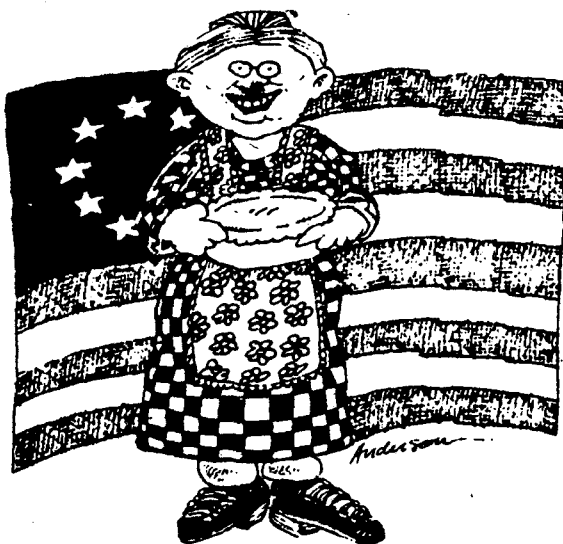
Campbell's Soup and Heinz Ketchup are locked in a race to develop the Supertomato. Both have invested millions in genetic engineering to produce a tomato with more "meat" and less water. Campbell has bought part of a DNA research firm; Heinz has signed a deal with Atlantic Richfield to send an expedition to the Peruvian Andes in search of wild tomatoes. The varieties found there are little bigger than berries. They are almost always green, virtually inedible, and sometimes poisonous. But they have one advantage: nearly three times as much solid content, meaning bigger profits for growers and canners. As for taste, Heinz President Anthony O'Reilly says, "That's not a primary specification."

Several colleges are offering students WATS lines to save money on personal long distance calls. Twelve hundred students at Tulane University pay a hundred dollar deposit for an individual code number and 24-hour access to the university's WATS line. They are billed monthly for calls. The service was started to resolve problems with billing long distance calls to dormitory residents. So far, officials report no major problems with the new system, although one student did manage to sell another student's ID number before being caught.

Astronomers say it's time we figured out how to save the world from being destroyed by an asteroid. At least 50, and possibly as many as 100,000, asteroids are known to be in threatening orbits near earth, and scientists say one is bound to strike our planet eventually, with possibly devastating consequences. To reduce the danger, some experts are proposing methods to divert any asteroid on a collision course with our planet. At the U.S. Geological Survey, Dr. Eugene Shoemaker says we should have warning of an impact years in advance and be able to divert the asteroid, possibly by exploding a nuclear device in space to alter its course.

According to the folks who keep track of such things, the U.S. has been the scene of fully one-third of the world's major natural disasters since 1947. A major natural disaster, if defined as any flood, hurricane, earthquake or the like that causes at least a million dollars damage, or injures or kills at least a hundred people. The U.S. has experienced 365 of them since '47, five times as many as runner-up India. But when it comes to per-capita deaths, we're a lot better off than most countries. The U.S. figure in that category is 51 per million people. In flood-ravaged Bangladesh, it's nearly four-thousand.

The round-the-clock smell of potato chips is assaulting the sense of residents of Long Beach, Long Island. About a dozen families have formed the neighborhood anti-potato chip association, complaining the greasy smell wafting out of the "Real Potato Chip Company" is making them choke. "My husband kisses me and it tastes like potato chips. We have eggs for breakfast—and they taste like potato chips," says resident Nancy Krol. City Council president Roy Tepper called the smell a zoning violation and promised a crackdown, but a company spokesman says the chips are selling so well they plan to move to larger quarters.



Apple Pie

Los Angeles art director Glenn Clarke has come up with a "I Don't Have Herpes" bracelet. For 22 bucks, the wearer can boast about his or her good health. Clarke makes no guarantee the wearer is telling the truth. Clarke can be found at 532 S. Orlando Drive, LA, CA 90048.

In Ogunquit, Maine, Polly Cookson is collecting signatures to run for town selectman, but her husband has put up a sign on his theater, "Polly Cookson Smokes Pot" because he doesn't want her to run. Her standard reply to those who ask if if she does, is "If you had my husband, you would, too." The Cooksons have been married 47 years.

A French engineer has come up with an automatic transmission for bicycles. It consists of 16 gears that change themselves based on how hard the biker is peddling. The New Scientist magazine called a test ride with the device "quite impressive."

The town of Wellston, Ohio, is threatened by 400,000 gallons of organic pizza sludge. The sludge, from a Jeno's Frozen Pizza plant, is a highly acidic combination of flour, tomato paste, cheese and pepperoni. It's clogging the town's sewer system, and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency is warning that the plant may have to close down unless some way is found to dispose of the residue. The town is currently waiting for a 500,000-dollar federal grant to clean up the mess.

Canadian researchers claim to have discovered a certain kind of tree that can actually help make it snow. Dust from the trees serves as an efficient nucleus for snowflakes, allowing them to form at higher temperatures. The discovery could be a boon for the 125-million-dollar-a-year commercial snowmaking business—so important, in fact, that the type of tree involved is being kept secret.

A Detroit library is offering a new service: check-out tools. The Mark Twain Library loans out more than 20 hammers, saws and screwdrivers every week and, according to librarian Alice James, the return rate is 100 percent.

Researchers at the University of California are studying a teddy bear that could be a lifesaver. The artificially breathing bear is placed in the crib of newborn babies, with its breathing synchronized to the infant's own rhythms. Infants who are exposed to the breathing bear appear to be more relaxed and content—and avoid serious respiratory problems later on. Researchers feel the stabilized breathing helps babies develop normally through early childhood.

Broccoli has become a hot item on the American culinary scene. The U.S. Agriculture Department says we are eating three times more broccoli today than we did 20 years ago, and growers estimate each of us tucked in more than four pounds of the vegetable in 1982. Three of every five home gardens sprout broccoli each summer, making it more popular than peas, beets and head lettuce. Jan Weimer, food editor for *Bon Appetit* magazine, says broccoli has become the established vegetable. Says Weimer: "It's like owning a pair of black shoes."

Peanut butter accounts for 52 percent of the U.S. peanut crop, and according to the people who make "Superman Peanut Butter," one acre of peanuts can produce 30,000 peanut butter sandwiches.

Newspaper horoscopes may be entertaining, but they're a lousy way of predicting the future. A Canadian consumer TV show asked a dozen people to keep a diary for a week, to compare what actually happened with four anonymous horoscopes. The winner, which was rated as only "slightly accurate," was a fake horoscope compiled by the show's staff from fortune cookies, good advice and random newspaper horoscopes. Despite that, it was far ahead of syndicated astrologers Jean Dixon, Bernice Osol and Sidney Omarr.

With word out that there will be room for civilians on a space shuttle flight in 1985, NASA has been inundated with applications from journalists. Aspiring shuttle passengers include everyone from long-time space buff Walter Cronkite to Dave Dooling, science editor for the Huntsville, Alabama, *Times*. Jerry Hannifin of *Time* magazine is trying to get an edge by applying for zero-gravity training, though ABC's Jules Bergman claims, "I began to train for space in the days of the Apollo program." NASA says it may appoint a committee of journalists to pick one reporter who will file a pool report.

warned that portable radio-cassette players with earphones could lead to hearing loss as their noise levels can easily exceed the federal standards for workers. A manufacturer's spokesperson acknowledged that a high volume's needed to pick up many stations or to use less-than-new batteries. Hearing loss takes long to develop, tell-tale signs aren't likely (*Wall Street Journal*).

- Starch blocker pills don't inhibit the digestion and absorption of starch in humans (AP: *Hartford Courant*, *Inquirer*, *Wall Street Journal*; USA, *Globe*).

- The Pentagon wants to abolish the limit of 55 advisers in El Salvador at one time and move to a more flexible yearly average limit (AP: *Inquirer*, *Herald*).

- A US Air Force officer trained 17 Guatemalan military pilots last summer despite a ban on military aid to that country (AP: *Inquirer*).

- A National Council of Churches inquiry, invited to Guatemala by its government, found the

army sometimes executes peasants immediately on the accusation of hooded informers. At times randomly selected people are tortured or executed, "often publicly," as examples of what happens to those joining the guerrillas. Findings were based on interviews with witnesses (AP: *Globe*).

- An Indian peasant who fled Guatemala said that last March an army attack on San Martin, his village, took 200-250 lives. The United Opposition says over 10,000 have been killed by the army since Rios-Montt took over, but the government denies participation in the San Martin massacre or other atrocities (AP: *Courant*).

- An experimental drug reverses the major cause of sickle cell anemia, an important killer of black Americans, by turning on genes dormant since birth. It may be the first successful try to control the output of specific genes in humans. Far more study of long-term effects is needed before marketing for routine use (AP: *Courant*, *Herald*, *Post-Dispatch*).

- Reagan brags about his administration's civil rights record: the Justice Dept. did over 9,000 reviews to check compliance with the Voting Rights Act. He didn't mention that redistricting after the 1980 census caused automatic reviews. Reagan notes the number of suits filed by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission was up 13% in "the first full year" of his administration. But the data he cited was on Carter's last four months plus the next eight months before Reagan's team ran EEOC. AP obtained records showing that in six months ending Mar. 31, 1982, the staff recommended 108 suits and Reagan's appointee approved 31. In the past approval was nearly certain (*Inquirer*).

- Poland's 1982 coal output was only slightly less than the 1978-80 boom years (AP: *Inquirer*).

When UN experts reported on US charges that the Soviets use chemical weapons in Asia, the 14"

Post article gave less than 3" to the UN report, 9" to US views, and about 2" to Soviet denials. Eight days earlier the *Post* had over 24" (plus photo) on the US allegations and no Soviet comment. The *Post* said a UN report was coming but it was suspect since the commission was denied access to the war zones. Of course the US had no such access. A tough editorial followed.

The 12" UPI-Inquirer account of the UN report noted their view that most of the reported symptoms were vague: "... some allegations were only supported by scanty circumstantial evidence. Alternative explanations... were possible and, in most cases, even likely." The UN found some circumstantial evidence but no conclusive proof of chemical warfare.

- A senior district surgeon charged South African security police with assault after an 18-year-old black girl died 16 days after being released from detention (UPI: *Egyptian Gazette*, *Globe*).

- In late December the *Post* did a long article on SA intelligence break-ins against offices of African nationalist and anti-apartheid groups in Britain, and noted "unusual activities" against the offices

of local anti-apartheid groups. *The Observer* (London) had at least three meaty articles on the topic months earlier. More that was involved: a note in Afrikaans left by mistake in a London phone box linked SA and men under investigation in connection with bombings of African nationalist offices. The newspaper *Expresso* (Portugal) printed elaborate details of an alleged plot to overthrow the Angolan government and replace it with one that would establish diplomatic relations with SA and encourage a more moderate attitude towards it. South Africa was to work with Savimbi, mercenaries, dissident Angolans, and anti-Castro Cubans in the operation.

Even the purported involvement of Frank Sturgis of Watergate fame didn't entice US media to do the story. If the policy is not to pick up allegations of plots printed in foreign papers, how do we explain the willingness to report Italian press speculation on alleged Bulgarian plotting against the Pope?

- A producer for an ABC documentary on black labor in SA says 12,000 feet of film shot in Port Elizabeth was deliberately ruined after being checked on a South African Airways flight. Also a

high-powered magnetic eraser wiped out the film's 80-roll soundtrack. ABC redid most of the interviews but lost footage of a major union meeting. Security police monitor Port Elizabeth's black unions very closely, fearing they'll ally with the outlawed African National Congress (*NY Times*; *Post-Dispatch*).

Events at the largely unreported World Zionist Congress suggest potentially important shifts in the attitude of Zionists outside of Israel towards that state. For the first time it passed resolutions an Israeli government didn't want. A meagre *Post* report said formal adoption of a resolution asking for territorial compromise in the interest of peace was "blocked by parliamentary maneuvering." The *Sun* and National Public Radio had finer detail: Chairman Doltzin adjourned the meeting "on the ground that no resolution could be passed against the government." What parliament has that rule? NPR added that the chair first asked members of Hadassah, an American Jewish women's organization, if they knew what they were doing by supporting the resolution.

AMERICAN JOURNAL

DAVID ARMSTRONG

The man in the cowboy hat kept talking, moving frenetically, stuffing chips into his mouth and laughing at phantoms. The flesh-and-blood people at the bus stop lowered their eyes and looked away, but the man in the cowboy hat was undeterred. He walked up to one person, and then another, laughing, eating, talking incoherently to everyone and no one.

We got on the bus, the woman I live with and I, and the man in the cowboy hat got on, too. Slowly, he fed a handful of nickels and dimes into the fare-box. As he turned and walked down the aisle, I found myself hoping he wouldn't sit next to us or get off at our stop. He didn't. He disembarked one stop before ours, after running the length of the aisle and falling to his knees, still talking rapid-fire. On our way home, we looked over our shoulders in the night for the man in the cowboy hat. We were afraid of him.

I haven't seen him since, and I haven't read any psychiatric reports on the man, but I think it is fair to say that he is crazy by most definitions of the word. From the tattered, soiled condition of his clothes, I gather that he is also poor. Increasingly, such burned-out husks of humanity are swarming the streets of urban-America. You see them everywhere, damaged people with glazed eyes and far-away expressions. Some would have been on the street in any era, but many are victims of hard economic times and crazy cutbacks in mental health programs that could otherwise have helped them.

As critics of liberal psychiatry point out, reforms that tempered the warehousing of patients in mental hospitals by integrating them into community support networks also put people on the street. Given the severity of traditional treatments such as electric shock and forced drugging, that was a humane step to take. However, crisis centers, personal counseling and drop-in clinics cost money. And that's precisely what mental health programs are not getting, thanks to widespread cutbacks in federal and state funds.

As a result, many people who were having trouble coping in the first place now have nowhere to turn. Those too far gone to find and hold a job may also have nowhere to live. While there are no exact headcounts, you can be sure that many of the people standing in soup kitchen lines and sleeping under bridges are suffering psychologically as well as financially.

According to a report in the St. Louis weekly *Riverfront Times*, researchers at Johns Hopkins University have concluded that "for every one percent rise in unemployment... four percent more men and two percent more women are committed to state mental institutions. With the same one per-

cent unemployment rise," the report continues, "four percent more people of both sexes commit suicide, nearly six percent more are murdered and four percent more wind up in jail."

Unemployment and cutbacks in psychological support services may not drive people crazy in and of themselves, but—as these statistics show—they can make already existing pressures unbearable. If the present trend continues, we will see a hardening of the two-tier system of health care that has always existed in America. Affluent people who can afford to pay for psychiatric care will get care. Poor people will not. Simple as that.

I don't know what kind of care would help the man I saw on the bus that night. Maybe a crisis center where a trained person would listen to his problem. Maybe forced institutionalization, for the man may be dangerous, and society has a right and a duty to restrain violent people. Maybe nothing would help him.

But to not even try to help people who are out of control, who are in pain, is to increase the already enormous human wreckage in our society. And that, as the people who rode the bus with the man in the cowboy hat could tell you, is a high price to pay.

CHARLES MCDOWELL

Leaving the Senate, walking toward the rotunda of the Capitol, you soon come to the Old Senate Chamber. A dignified sign at the door says the Senate met there from 1810 to 1859—Webster, Calhoun and Clay debated the future of the Union there—and the chamber has been restored as a shrine.

When you look in the door, you see the old mahogany desks, the red carpet with gold stars, the red canopy over the chair of the vice president, and, atop the canopy, a fierce gilded eagle with wings spread over the room. But when I looked in the other day, a Secret Service man shook his head: no visitors except television crews and still photographers. The room was being used for an important Senate ceremony.

As a reporter, I was directed to a door across the corridor and up a twisting flight of stone steps to the gallery of the fancy old room. At the entrance was an ancient sign: "Gentlemen will be pleased not to place their feet on the board in front of the gallery, as the dirt from them falls upon the Senators' heads."

Imagine it. Dirt from shoes in the gallery falling on Daniel Webster's head, on Henry Clay's, on John C. Calhoun's. When I took my seat on the hard wooden bench, and put my feet flat on the floor, I was looking down on Vice President George Bush.

He was leaning wearily against the table in front of the thronelike chair of the vice president. His eyes were closed. He was waiting for the next of

a succession of 33 senators who would come to the Old Senate Chamber during a period of more than two hours to "re-enact" their swearing-in to new six-year terms.

They came in alphabetical order, by appointment, from 1 to 3:20 p.m.—from Bentsen of Texas, Bingaman of New Mexico and Burdick of North Dakota, to Stennis of Mississippi and Tribe of Virginia, and on through Wilson of California and Zorinsky of Nebraska.

The senators would bring their wives and children. Bush would greet them gracefully. Then the vice president and the senator would stand in front of the thronelike chair under the canopy and the eagle, and the wife would stand between them holding a Bible.

The television cameras would come on, and the still photographers would begin to click and flash. Bush would ask the senator to swear (or affirm) to defend and uphold the Constitution of the United States, and the senator would swear (or affirm). They would shake hands. Then Bush would ask the children to join them on the little podium, and the cameras would record that scene, too. And then Bush would smile and say, "That's it," and everybody would shake hands again.

The swearing-in was seen that night on television in some of the senators' home states. The photographs were published in most of their home newspapers. Vice President Bush had gone to considerable trouble to accommodate the senators, and to

give the folks at home a sense of the opening day of the 98th Congress.

Perhaps we should keep in mind, however, that what had been "re-enacted" had not happened in the first place.

Oh, sure, the 33 senators starting new terms had taken the oath of office shortly after the Senate convened at noon. They had been summoned grandly to the well of their contemporary chamber in groups of four and five, and had taken the oath of office from Bush. They were properly sworn in, all right, and in the traditional way.

But there were no wives holding Bibles. There

were no beaming children under a red canopy and a fierce eagle. And there were no television cameras, no photographers to record the scene for the constituents and posterity.

Perhaps no harm was done by this non-event in the Old Senate Chamber. Surely no important fraud was perpetrated. But I cannot avoid the sense that it was silly, and that it slightly demeaned the vice presidency, which is an office we seem to take some perverse delight in demeaning. As a matter of fact, a shrine to the old Senate and the grand old

politicians who served in it probably deserves better than fictional, self-serving "re-enactments" by our modern media stars.

If the Senate wants to be on television, let it follow the recommendations of its leadership and admit television cameras to its contemporary chamber. The House of Representatives televises its sessions—under a system controlled by the House itself—and there is a growing consensus that the public interest is better served than before. The Senate still boggles at television, and "re-enacts" to suit its sense of its own importance.

Richmond Times-Dispatch

THE EX-URBANITES

The surprising urban to rural migration of millions of Americans in the 1970s and early '80s is changing the face of smalltown America in more rapid and unpredictable ways than at any time since the massive rural emigration of mid-1920s and early '30s.

The rural growth, which defied the expectations of demographers a decade ago, has given a new lease on life to many small communities through the urban, entrepreneurial zeal of the newcomers. At the same time, many ex-urbanites bring with them a cherished, romantic notion of smalltown life that sometimes conflicts sharply with the lifestyles of rural residents.

"I don't think we're going to recognize our rural areas in ten to 15 years," said Russ Youmans of the Western Rural Development Center at Oregon State University. With the increasing use of computer-assisted communications equipment, he noted, almost any remote location can have an electronic umbilical cord to urban-centered businesses.

Said Peggy Ross, a rural sociologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture: "The distinct differences between urban and rural America are slowly eroding. There is now a great deal of diversity in rural America."

To begin with, even in rural communities that appear to revolve around agriculture, most residents have non-farm jobs. Fewer than five percent of the people who live outside small cities and towns make their living on a farm. The other traditional "extractive" industries set in rural areas—mining, timber and fishing—have also generally been on the decline since the 1950s.

On the other hand, decentralization of industry in the 1960s caused manufacturing jobs to grow

more rapidly in non-metropolitan areas than in the cities. Now, as the expansion of manufacturing has slowed, rural areas are seeing growth in sectors like financial services, insurance and real estate.

Tourism and recreation are continuing to draw new residents not only to the traditional rural destinations in Florida and the Southwest, but to the upper Midwest, New England, the Ozarks and California's Sierra Nevada area.

And while many small cities in the Midwest stagnate, places like Manchester, New Hampshire, and Burlington, Vermont, are becoming non-metropolitan meccas for light manufacturing and high technology industries.

The 1980 census has revealed another striking change: While the majority of the rural newcomers are white, the surge of immigrants coming to this country in the last decade has spilled over into the countryside. Although most legal and undocumented immigrants gravitate toward a few large cities, preliminary census returns show much more

A Bulgarian exile living in Italy is doing his part to bring down the Soviet economy. The man, who calls himself Boris, writes a letter every week to a Russian dissident and insures it for 400 dollars. Since the Soviets never deliver letters to dissidents, Italian Postal authorities reimburse Boris, then send the bill to Moscow, which must pay up or be kicked out of the International Postal Union. Boris says he makes 20,000 dollars a year writing the letters. If everyone used his trick, he says, the Soviet economy would collapse.

ALLISON ENGEL

ethnic and racial diversity in rural areas as well, said the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Calvin Beale, the demographer who first noticed the turnaround in migration in the early '70s.

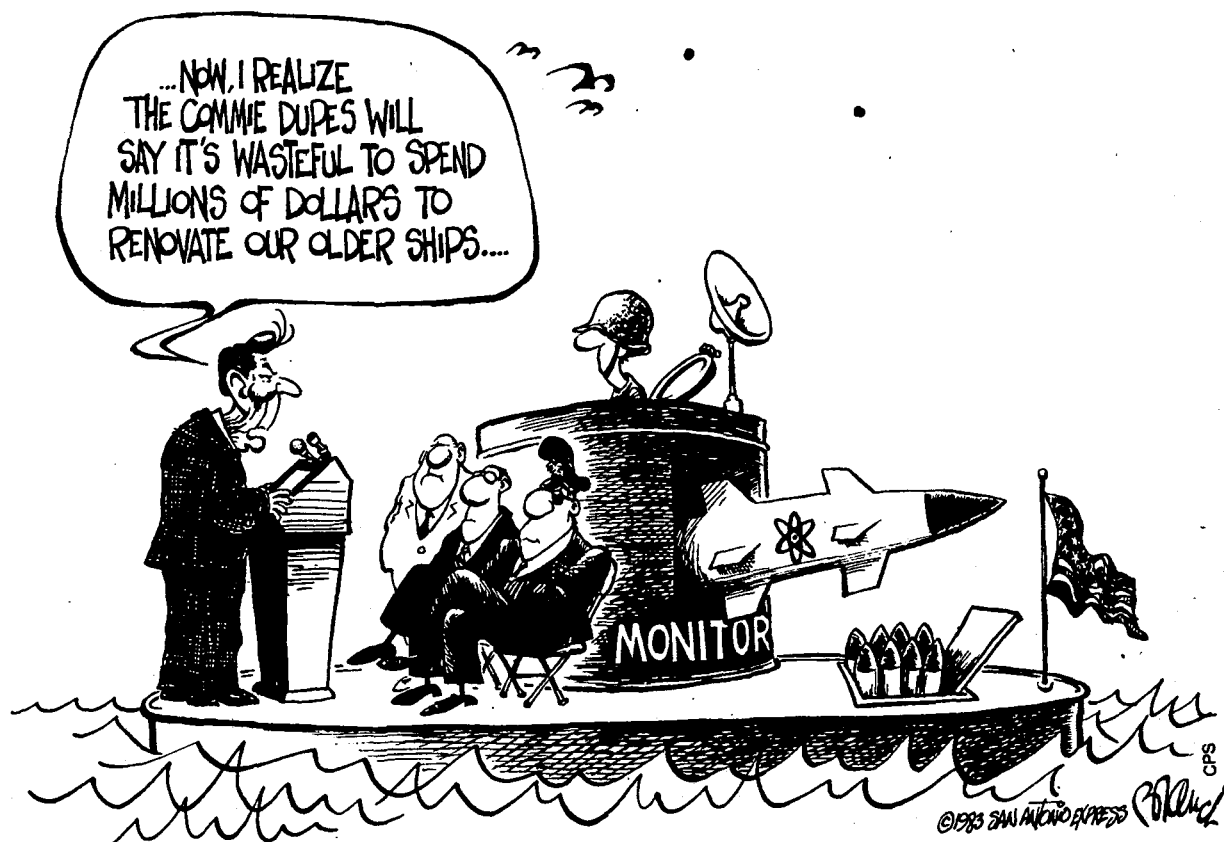
The data is still incomplete, and the numbers are small, said Beale, "but they are a substantial increase over what we had in the past."

One spur to the economies of rural areas is the entrepreneurial spirit of the urban transplant. "A characteristic of people moving out to rural areas is that many of them have as an objective to start their own business," said Beale. One has only to look at the advertisements in the back pages of "Country Journal Magazine," which caters to this new breed of rural residents, to get a feel for the number of inns, taverns, craftshops and other cottage industries that have opened their doors in rural America in recent years. Said Tuck Weills, a resident of the Sierra foothills community of Nevada City, California, "It seems as if a new bar or restaurant opens every week—and another one closes."

The upshot is that the quality and range of goods and services available in many rural areas has increased markedly in recent years, attracting still more urban migrants. Perhaps the most dramatic

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example is the availability of medical services. For the first time in American history, doctors are fanning out to small towns and cities in significant numbers. Although there are still impoverished, remote areas that lack adequate medical services, a recent study by the Rand Institute and Dr. William Schwartz of the Tufts University School of Medicine found that by the late 1970s few American towns of 2,500 or more did not have access to a doctor. Every major hospital in the state of Maine has more than doubled the size of its medical staff in the last ten years, notes rural sociologist Lou Ploch, from the University of Maine at Orono.

Ploch has studied the urban-rural turnaround at length and has documented major differences between the newcomers and those already living in Maine. The transplants are better educated, include far more professionals and white-collar workers, and tend to have smaller families. A consequence of these differences is a fear among long time residents that the newcomers will "take over" a town and change it.

Although fears of newcomers inflating land prices may be correct in some areas, Ploch notes that newcomers can be credited with saving failing businesses in small towns or providing new services for communities. Most of the enterprises started by transplants, ranging from the manufacturer of herbal moth repellants to making antique furniture reproductions, are not competitive with existing businesses.

He theorizes that in the short run there may be conflicts between the old and new, but the newcomers are unlikely to make radical changes in the communities they join. "Turnaround migration... attracts people with a rural orientation," he said. "Newcomers will attempt to maintain and/or restore a rural culture."

The odd thing is, the rural culture that the newcomers seek to preserve has been abandoned by many of the younger rural residents. Ploch calls

the younger, less-educated, blue-collar rural dwellers "migrants in place" because they live in and enjoy small towns but, through conspicuous consumption of cars, televisions and the like, also live out their version of urban life. These people are puzzled when they see relatively affluent, well-educated people shunning the televisions, fancy cars and other signs of the urban lifestyle to live in old houses in the countryside.

These existing residents may be angered when the transplants post "no hunting" signs on their newly purchased land and try to prevent residents from riding their snow mobiles in the area. Often

the two groups are at odds politically, as well. Rather than making friends with their peers in the community, many of the newcomers ally themselves with older residents—the parents of the young blue-collar workers who may still be farming or in some way keeping the idealized, old-fashioned vision of rural life alive.

As rural areas become even more urbanized, these conflicts between the old and new groups will be one of the major bi-products of the growing rural heterogeneity. Whether rural communities will again confound the experts in the ways they accommodate the diversity remains to be seen.

Copyright PNS

ARTHUR HOPPE

"You must eat your nice shredded wheat," I said to my daughter, Malphasias, employing the finest in time-tested parental logic, "for there are hungry children all over the world."

"That makes no sense whatsoever, Daddykins," said Malphasias with the skepticism of youth.

"Certainly it does, dear," I said patiently. "You must understand that they are hungry because their farmers persist in attempting to grow food."

"They shouldn't, Daddykins?"

"It's an outmoded concept, dear. You see, under President Reagan, we have now achieved the first Perfectly Rational Agricultural System history has ever seen. Of course, it wasn't always that way. For hundreds of years, our farmers persisted in attempting to grow food, too. Oh, it was back-breaking labor. And all too often, their crops would be wiped out by drought, insects or disease. Many years, there wasn't enough food to go around."

"Why didn't they just give up?"

"Because of the joys of harvest time. They would sing 'Bringing in the Sheaves,' wallow in their amber waves of grain, dance to 'Turkey in the Straw,' and praise the bounty of the Good Lord."

"That sounds like lots of fun."

"Oh, it was. And as the years passed, they got better and better at it. They developed drought-resistant crops, new insecticides and fertilizers and their harvests grew bigger and bigger."

"Gosh, that's wonderful, Daddykins!"

"No, that's terrible, Malphasias. You see, they grew more food than people could eat. Not enough people were hungry. Crop prices plummeted. Many farmers went bankrupt. But those who were left hadn't learned their lesson; they went right on sowing, cultivating and harvesting as though they were demented."

"Ooo, how awful! How did we cure this food glut?"

"At last, the government took the first giant stride toward a Perfectly Rational Agricultural System. 'You may sow and cultivate,' the govern-

ment told the farmers, 'but instead of harvesting your crops, you must plough them under.'"

"All that work for nothing. That's silly."

"Exactly. So the government took the second big step: 'We will pay you not to sow, cultivate or harvest. In fact, we will pay you for doing absolutely nothing.'"

"Now the government's beginning to make sense," said Malphasias, nodding.

"Yes, but the farmers still missed harvesting. After all, it's not much fun singing, 'Bringing in the Government Checks.' So they still grew too much food. And the government had to buy up the surplus and store it in silos so enough people would still be hungry."

"Gee, Daddykins, it must have cost the government a bundle to keep enough people hungry."

"Smart thinking, dear. And that's where the final step to a Perfectly Rational Agricultural System comes in. Instead of government checks, President Reagan is going to give the farmers surplus grain from the silos to replace the grain they didn't grow."

Malphasias clapped her hands. "And so the farmers can sing 'Bringing in the Sheaves' as they drive down to the silos to harvest the grain they didn't grow. Yet enough people will still be hungry."

I couldn't help but proudly pat Malphasias on the head. "And now you see why you must eat your nice shredded wheat because there are hungry children all over the world and we must keep them that way in order to have a Perfectly Rational Agricultural System."

"I say it's soggy old glop," said Malphasias thoughtfully, "and I say the hell with it."

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Unconstitutional to Jail Children

August 6, 1982, was an important day for all who believe that many of the people locked away behind bars do not belong there. Judge Helen J. Frye held in an Oregon federal district court that it is *per se* unconstitutional to hold children in adult jails. The ruling applies to accused status offenders and children accused of crimes and awaiting adjudication.

Oregon Legal Services brought the class action suit on behalf of the children confined, or subject to confinement, in the Columbia County Correctional Facility (CCCF). The county has no separate juvenile detention center.

In her findings, Judge Frye said that "CCCF is designed for the purpose of confinement, without regard for human dignity or need... Nothing at CCCF is responsive to the emotional and physical needs of children in conflict with the law and their families."

In her 23-page decision, Judge Frye continued, "confinement in CCCF is clearly and fundamentally intended to punish children. Punishment is the treatment of choice of Columbia County's Juvenile Department for its detained children. This 'treatment' has little or nothing to do with simple detention, rehabilitation, or even the protection of society."

The ruling is a critical one since it goes further than any other U.S. federal court has on the subject of detaining juveniles in adult jails and lock-up facilities. Judge Frye stated that she believes that juveniles' behavior improves most readily when they are kept away from jails. "Jailing [juveniles] increases the chance that they will forever be criminals. The fact that the confinement is brief does not reduce the harm."

-Jericho

INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES EVENTS

• 1901 Que Street NW • 234-9382 •

Thursday
February 17
4:00 pm

SEMINAR "Technology and Rural Life"
Irene Tinker, founder and director of the Equity Policy Center and author of Women and World Development.

Wednesday
February 23
12:30 pm

SEMINAR "The Catholic Bishops' Letter on War and Peace"
Father J. Brian Hehir, Director of the Office of International Affairs of the U.S. Catholic Conference.

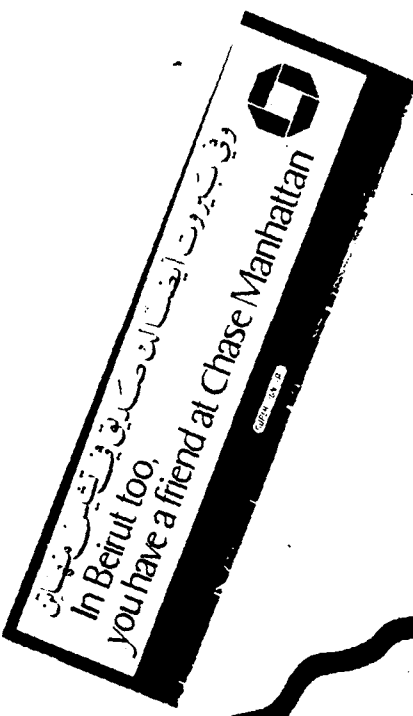
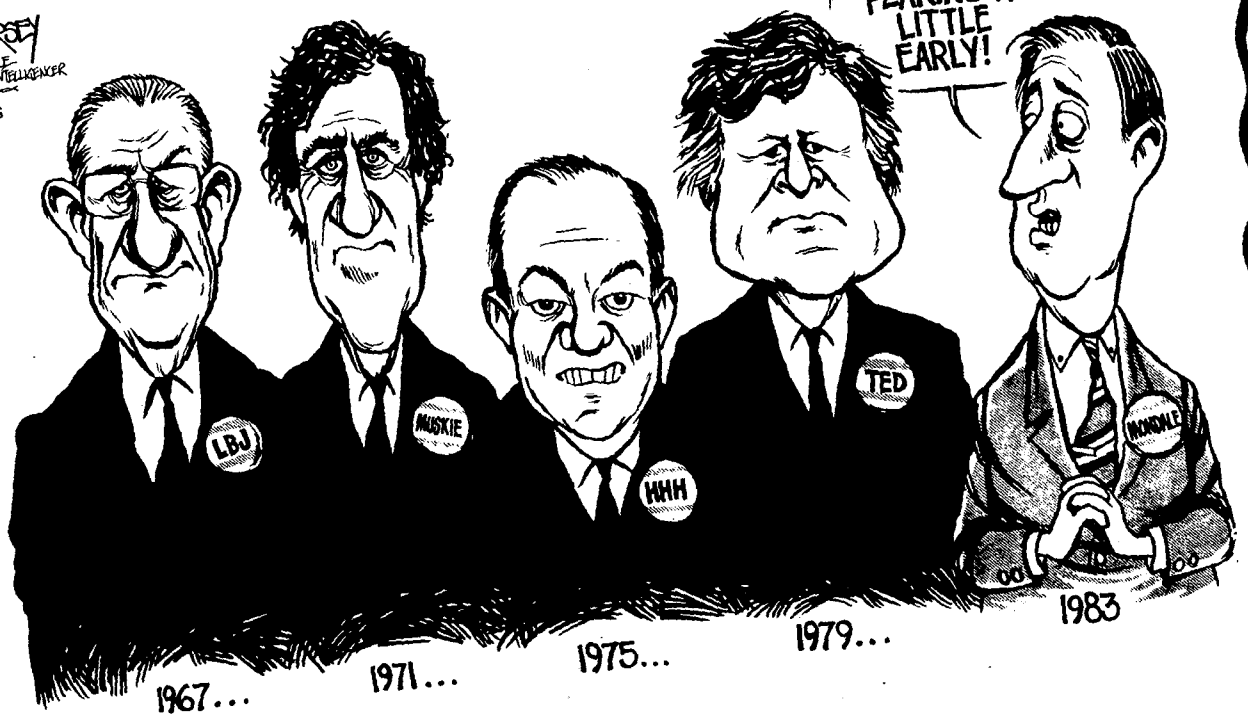
Friday
February 25
12:30 pm

SEMINAR "Rock Music, Counterculture, and Politics in Eastern Europe"
Peter Ogi, an EMI recording artist in his fifth year of exile from Hungary, where he faces a five year prison sentence.

graffiti

DEMOCRATIC FRONTRUNNERS...

HORNEY
SEATTLE
POST-INTELLIGENCER
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CPS



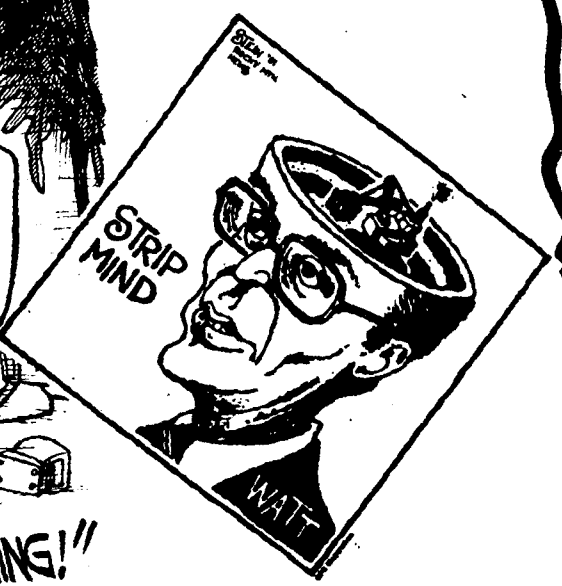
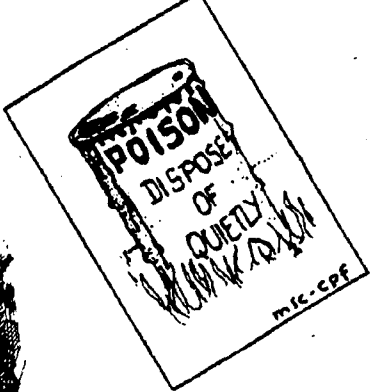
The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it. Through violence you may murder the liar, but you cannot murder the lie, nor establish the truth. Through violence you murder the hater, but you do not murder hate. In fact, violence merely increases hate....Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.

Martin Luther King, Jr.



The Senate last year played more roles than Lon Chaney, almost all of them villains. It played Scrooge with the social budget, Jim Crow on busing, Robin Hood in reverse on tax giveaways to the rich, Santa Clause to the Pentagon, and the Ugly American on intervention in Central America. In addition, the Senate deserves a special Academy Award for Ham Acting for its passage of the Balanced Budget Amendment.

Leon Shull
National Director
ADA



"BELIEVE ME, MR. JOHNSON, THESE TWO MODELS CAN DO ALMOST ANYTHING!"

CHUCK STONE

Richmond is a city of exquisite colonial charm and courtly manners. Ubiquitous monuments extol the founding of this country and the later effort to tear it apart.

Ironically, Richmond was present at the creation of both.

Perhaps that contradiction partially explains the freedom fire that has been awakened in the breasts of Richmond's blacks.

To honor Martin Luther King Jr., they put together an impressive seven-day series of educational seminars, political lectures, religious services, artistic fairs and musical programs. With the exception of Atlanta, no city comes close to matching this outpouring of reverence for America's "drum major for justice."

"Community Learning Week"—as it's called—is jointly sponsored by the Richmond Committee of Black Churchmen and Virginia Union University's office of student development.

I'm not surprised they've been doing it so well for five years.

What amazes me is the failure of other cities to catch the spirit.

Maybe one of the reasons Richmond has worked longer and harder is because Virginians feast on politics the way moviegoers gobble up popcorn. King preached political involvement as a divine necessity.

Last year, Virginia's black vote came of age when it provided the precise margin of victory for the election of Lyndon Johnson's son-in-law, Charles Robb, to the governor's office. A man of humorless taciturnity, Robb gives you a feeling that he knew marriage to Johnson's daughter would catapult him into high public office.

One of the burning questions in modern technology has been answered: Apple computer owners do *not* like pepperoni pizza. IBM personal computer owners, on the other hand, prefer it three-to-one. That fact was uncovered during a market survey by a Minnesota research firm, which tossed in the pizza question as a lark. Why the pepperoni split? Local pizza chef Jeff Lundbladd says pepperoni may have a lot in common with IBM—they're both "good tasting, but not flamboyant."

But you've got to believe that he acted out of principle when he enrolled his kids in Richmond's predominantly black school system.

It irritated the hell out of white Virginians. The depth of their cowardly inability to follow suit had been exposed.

Yet Virginia is no different from the rest of a country which President Reagan is encouraging to return to "separate but equal."

In Richmond, they try hard to pretend they're immune to that presidential virus, but the city's blacks and whites are still deeply divided.

Last November, the schism flared into the open when one of the five majority black city councilmen joined forces with the four minority whites to unseat the irritatingly brilliant incumbent black mayor, Henry Marsh III.

For this betrayal of ethnic loyalty, the heretic, Roy A. West, was rewarded with the ceremonial post of mayor.

The white business community was ecstatic. To the black community, West's act of principle is compared to Mr. Dooley's description of the office of vice president as both "th' highest an' the lowest.

"It isn't a crime exactly. Ye can't be sint to jail f'r it, but it's kind iv a disgrace. It's like writin' anonymous letters."

The clash represents a new wrinkle in the black-white symbiosis.

It's not a question of whether Richmond should have a black mayor, but rather, what *kind* of black mayor.

The luxury of such an indecision would have delighted the Rev. King.

While politicians debate, Virginia Union University students pursue education.

I had been well-briefed by the media on Reaganomics' success in crippling higher education, especially black colleges.

When I walked into the large hall to address the student body, I subconsciously expected to find a sense of apprehension or despair.

Instead, I encountered one of the liveliest and most responsive student bodies in years.

A few hours at Virginia Union University is confirming evidence that the black college is alive and well and living in Martin Luther King's dream.

In Richmond, his spirit has kindled a spiritual togetherness. His dream is being fulfilled in the black quest to "empower the beloved community."

As the old black man King used to quote said: "I ain't what I'd like to be and I ain't what I oughta be. But thank God, I ain't what I used to be."

Philadelphia Daily News



NASA scientists are making plans to establish a permanent lunar colony. Researchers at the Johnson Space Center are pushing a "lunar initiative," to put a half-ton survey satellite in orbit around the moon and land remote-controlled lunar rovers to explore the moon's surface. By the first decade of the next century, they say we can have a permanent base on the moon, which could send back a wealth of scientific data and begin to mine lunar mineral deposits. Some scientists have also cited the benefits of a moon base for national security. Former NASA geochimist Jeffrey Warner calls the moon "the ultimate high ground" for defending the country. Society officials have accused the US of planning to install laser weapons on the moon in violation of international treaties, but Pentagon officials have denied the allegations.

The Council on Economic Priorities reports that on 18 initiatives in 1980 and 17 last year, corporations spent an average of four times as much as did citizen groups opposing them. The corporations won in 11 of 14 cases in 1980 and 12 or 15 last fall.

LIFE & RELATED SUBJECTS

DAVE BARRY

I keep reading these stories about these towns that want to ban video arcade games, as if these games were part of the International Communist Conspiracy. You know:

POND SCUM, ARKANSAS — The town council in this small, pig-farming community voted last night to ban video arcade games on the grounds that they are a threat to the moral fiber of the town's youth. "The youths in this town barely got any moral fiber left to speak of, and I blame these here video games," charged Council President Lionel B. Sparge. "When I was a youth, Pond Scum didn't have no video games, and we found plenty to do. For example, we'd stand around and spit."

I agree with the people who want to ban video games. These games definitely destroy your moral fiber. At least they destroy *my* moral fiber. I have this video game that I play all the time on my personal home computer, which I keep back in a back bedroom. I don't allow my two-year-old son to get near it, because it might destroy his moral fiber, and also he tends to pull the plug right when I'm in an important phase of my game, such as when the aliens materialize out of hyperspace.

So what has happened is that my son has been going through all these critical stages of growth and development out in

the living room, and I've missed most of it. Not that I mind all that much, really, since if you want to participate in my son's growth and development you have to read him these profoundly dull children's books with names like "Let's Go To a Condiments Factory" and "Tommy the Toad Vacuums the Carpet." So I've left his development pretty much in the hands of my wife, with instructions that she should call me if he reaches any new developmental stages so I can come out to the living room and watch him for a few minutes.

And I'm not the only one whose moral fiber is being destroyed. It is a proven scientific fact that video games are also corrupting American youth. In a recent experiment, scientific researchers exposed a group of teenaged boys to an arcade game, and found that all of them had unclean sexual thoughts. Of course, the researchers got the same result when they exposed the boys to cole slaw, an alpaca sweater and "The MacNeil-Lehrer Report," but that is beside the point. The point is that we should all write letters to our elected officials and urge them to ban video games.

And while they're at it, they should also ban golf. Golf is similar to video games in that it is a monumentally useless activity that people become obsessed with and waste a lot of money on, but it has the

added drawback of encouraging people to wear really stupid clothing, such as pants that can be seen with the naked eye from other galaxies. I strongly suspect that if our nation's youth continue to play video games, many of them will eventually graduate to golf, so I say let's kill two birds with one stone and ban them both.

Now I know what you're thinking. You're thinking, "How, in a free country such as this, can we ban video games and golf, yet continue to permit stamp-collecting?" You're absolutely right, and I'm only sorry I didn't think of it myself. It would be hard to conceive of an activity more useless than stamp-collecting, except maybe water-skiing or the Rose Bowl parade, so I suppose these things will have to be banned too, along with fraternal organizations, music, tropical fish, racquetball, and any activity whatsoever involving Ed McMahon. Also, anybody attempting to operate a beauty pageant should be shot without trial.

Of course, this is only a partial list of the useless, fiber-destroying activities that should be banned, and I'm sure you'll think of plenty more when you write to your elected officials. The important thing isn't so much *what* you want to ban; it's the fact that you participate in the banning process. That's what democracy is all about.

Feature Associates

CITY DESK Cont'd

knows Roland, however, realizes that everything that goes through his lenses has first been filtered through an unusually restive, fertile and imaginative mind. Most good artists employ such a process and it should be obvious, but apparently isn't, given, for example, the number of writers with fine technique and nothing to say.

The other thing that strikes me about Roland is utility of his optimism (he has endured enough pain in life to justify self-pity but he chose to put his money on hope and change) and his passion. There was, for example, the time Kathy was driving Roland around on some photographic mission, when he suddenly saw a potential subject sitting on a bench. "Turn left!" he hollered. Kathy turned left and as Roland focussed on the bench-sitter, the police car behind them turned on its siren. As Kathy sat quietly waiting for the officer to complete his administrative abolitions relative to the enforcement of proper navigation of city streets, she was startled by a sound beside her. Fortunately, the policeman didn't catch the repeated whirr-clicking inside the car as Roland shot literally from the hip. The result was a

fine collection of photos that, in Roland's usual fashion, made the viewer a participant rather than merely an observer.

Even if I were to finally learn how to operate one of increasingly mindless cameras that have accumulated in my closet over years of sporadic and futile photographic curiosity, I doubt I would ever try that. But I can, and do, try to keep in mind one of Roland's implicit admonitions to his friends and viewers: trust yourself.

It's eleven am. Do you know where your ethics are? Not really. I'm sitting here settling instead for full disclosure. Rather than refusing the payola, I'm munching on the Tagalong peanut butter patties sent me by the Girl Scouts of America to trick me into telling you that their cookie drive is underway. Does it help if I tell you that I'm not crazy about the Tagalongs and am just forcing myself to eat them so I can get down to the boxes of old fashion shortbread and thin mints? Pitch: these cookies not only contain no preservatives or artificial colors, they are kosher. You can place an order at 337-4300 through April 1. And tell them that next year they should send me some Chocolate Chunks and Vanchos.

The Washingtonian reports that when Colman McCarthy wrote a critical review of Nancy Reagan's book, "To Love a Child," Katherine Graham personally apologized to the First Lady. McCarthy said, among other things, "The language is a double-depressant of numbing, cliché-ridden prose that ranges from Lady Bountiful pitter-patter to tearoom philosophizing. *** She shouldn't be allowed either to get away with filling up page after page with gobbets of platitudes that, by comparison, make the articles in Family Circle magazine read like John Updike essays." The Washingtonian reported that there was an unwritten rule at the paper that attacks on Mrs. Reagan were not welcomed. Then the Washingtonian added its own view that "Assigning Colman McCarthy to review 'To Love a Child,' *** was like letting Yasser Arafat review the autobiography of Menachem Begin."

With publishers like these, who needs the government to suppress the press?

After we had gone to bed last month, Judge Green's order attempting to correct conditions at Lorton was overturned on appeal, thus setting back attempts to improve matters there.

A late item from the last election

DC JAILS: MORE MILLIONS OR MORE REFORM

LAWRENCE B. DROSS

For the past two years the number of people detained and incarcerated by the District has been steadily increasing. As of October of last year the 2,150 population of the DC detention facility exceeded its 1,350 space capacity by 800 inmates. While not as severe, the populations at Lorton and other institutions for sentenced offenders also exceeded their capacities. The District's current incarceration rate greatly exceeds that for any state and is twice the national average for many comparable cities. Recent passage of the mandatory minimum sentencing initiative will probably cause increases in both the number of people sentenced to prison and the length in drug and gun cases.

Prison overcrowding is not peculiar to the District. The prison population for the nation increased by 12.1 percent in 1981 to a total of 369,009 sentenced inmates in state and federal institutions. This growth record exceeds the 10.5 percent increase in 1975 when the previous record was set during the crime wave of the mid-seventies. If we were to combine the number of sentenced offenders with those who are detained for long periods while awaiting trial, the nationwide increased demand for jail and prison space would be even more staggering.

As a result of the mid-seventies experience, we learned a great deal about the debilitating effect of prison overcrowding and the utility of community corrections programs and crime prevention strategies. We also learned that prisons, as we operate them, are extremely costly and, to a great extent, serve as breeding grounds for more hardened criminals.

Experts estimate that 60 to 65 percent of the District's prisoners have served previous prison sentences. Furthermore, the inmate population is characterized by men who are black (98%) and 30 years old or younger, with approximately 40 per cent having no formal education beyond ninth grade. Many can also further be characterized as being partially dependent on alcohol or drugs and unemployed at the time of incarceration.

While it is true that serious crimes against both people and property have reached high levels and that the safety of our communities must be maintained, it disturbs me to observe how frequently some persons resort to the typical knee-jerk reaction of "build more jails and prisons and impose longer sentences." While jails and substantial prison terms are an absolute necessity for many types of criminal offenders, the interests of society would be better served by having certain other types of non-violent offenders serve shorter prison sentences or serve their sanctions in supervised community service settings.

Some may question the reasonableness of jail reform at a time of an unstable economy and record unemployment. I submit that we have no choice now but to institute reform. There is no endless supply of money to build more jails (at a cost

range of \$50,000 to \$100,000 per bed). We can expect 520 added prisoners by the end of this fiscal year based on present trends. Mandatory sentencing could easily add another 320 per year. When we add the present overcrowding of 800, that could give us a total overcrowding of 1,640 before the end of 1983.

Using an average for capital costs of \$75,000 per inmate, we taxpayers will have to lay out about \$375 million for one time construction of the needed new facilities if we continue with our current public policy for the next five years. In addition, with operating costs at about \$14,000 per inmate per year, we will need to lay out about \$175 million cumulatively, over the next five years, for a projected 4,200 additional prisoners. This totals about \$550 million over this short period — a high price indeed in the face of the many other social and developmental needs that our hard-pressed tax dollars must meet.

The only sensible option that we see is many fewer tax dollars for reforms that will keep many non-violent offenders out of jail. With comparatively small expenditures we could develop the skills and attitudes of current offenders in ways that will make it less likely that they will return to jail.

What choice would you make as a taxpayer and a citizen — \$550 million for more jails? — or 20% of that to reform the system without endangering your safety?

Perhaps it would help us to think about some of the types of reforms that could be made. Community-based and institutional programs must be improved. The Mayor's Crime Commission has already developed specific action strategies for improving supportive services such as counseling, job training, and remedial education in correctional facilities. Also we are currently drafting a bill to allow Superior Court judges to sentence non-violent offenders, who committed less serious crimes, to community service. Enactment of a community services law will serve two purposes: (1) it will force offenders to repay their debt to society in a meaningful, highly visible manner by performing work in the community, and (2) it will reduce the prison population.

Along with these improvements, it is essential that the prisons incorporate more training and treatment programs and provide more work opportunities inside the prisons that will better equip inmates for the world of work. This will further reduce jail populations because ex-offenders who are prepared to work when they are released are less likely to drift back into criminal activities.

More alternative educational programs for both incarcerated and ex-offenders are necessary. These programs must include diagnostic components that determine the structure and content of the educational program. They must concentrate on the basic skills that so many prisoners miss because they have dropped out of school. Many ex-offenders would be greatly aided in seeking employment if they had a degree or at least a G.E.D. Experience has taught us that people without education do not get meaningful jobs and therefore are much more likely to be involved with criminal activity.

Lawrence P. Dross is executive vice chair of the Mayor's Crime Commission. This article appeared originally in the City Hall New Times. Since the article was written, legislation promoting the use of restitution and community service as sentencing options has been passed.

comes this way from the AFGE. It seems that the AFGE PAC asked the federal Department of Transportation for permission to hold a rally in the department's courtyard but was denied permission by Secretary Drew Lewis. So the AFGE turned to Mayor Barry, who obligingly blocked off the entire street in front of DOT for the AFGE rally.

The latest victim of the Pennsylvania Developers Commission: the Fraternal Order of Police, which has been kicked out of space it has leased since 1966 at 625 Penna. Ave. NW. The lodge said it considered itself "among the homeless *** out in the cold *** a victim of downtown redevelopment." Get at the end of the line.

Potomac Fog: It seems to me that a group dedicated to the preservation of the city's oldest downtown commercial structure should pay some attention to the preservation of language as well. Therefore, Grano and Gang, would you please stop talking about saving Rhodes Tavern "on-site?" That's the way they talk at the Pentagon. Meanwhile, Jerry Moore, in his farewell speech as Metro chair, spoke of "reliability enhancements." He also closed out by saying, "I hereby give up the gavel to my successor, and with it the role of facilitator, arbitrator and leader, and reclaim my position as a voting member of the board, a thorn in the side to some, and a man of the people to others," -- but a language enhancer to none.

"Miles of Smiles," the excellent film on the sleeping car porters produced here, is being shown on national PBS Feb. 16. Rosina Tucker, narrator of the film, got the Hubert Humphrey Civil Rights Award last month, the film has been selected for an international festival of public TV films and is being dubbed in French for the Canadian market.

About the best news of the month was the Zoning Commission's decision to reject the plan to build 120 townhouses at Tregaron. The commission acted despite strong support from the Barry administration, which once again found itself totally out of step with one of the city's neighborhoods. Community groups had argued that the project should be scaled down by about a half. The developers promised to come back with a new proposal later this year, encouraged by commission chair Walter Lewis's advice that they "go back to the drawing board," and commissioner John Parsons's suggestion that they consider mid-rise apartment houses rather than single-family units that would cover more of the site.

UDC president Benjamin Alexander gave further evidence last month of an inclination to turn the university away from its open door policy towards DC applicants. Alexander proposed that the school dismantle its central tutoring, counseling and remedial programs, assigning the staff to individual departments. This was

seen by some critics as an effort to weed out the university's poorer students by downgrading the assistance given to them. Even UDC board of trustee chair Marjorie Parker indicated that the proposal might be at odds with the university's "philosophy and mission" to serve all its students. A board subcommittee has been appointed to study the proposal. Subcommittee chair Vincent Reed, the former school superintendent, said that Alexander "had better be damn clear about what he's going to do to see that these services of reinforcement are rendered" if the central facility is dismantled. UDC is going to have to decide, said Reed, "if this is going to be a university to educate the masses, or is it's going to be an elitist university that says either you make it or you don't?"

The proposal is troubling in part



Roses & Thorns

ROSES TO THE LOCAL COURTS for starting to translate major civil court documents into Spanish.

THORNS TO NADINE WINTER for proposing to limit further the hours kids can play public video games. As we said last month, this is not the city's business.

ROSES TO CHARLENE JARVIS for her work on getting a plan drawn up to improve Georgia Avenue in her ward. At a meeting unveiling the plan, one resident said, "This is the first plan like this that I've ever seen that didn't call for tearing down everything and putting up high-rise buildings." The plan places emphasis on preservation, rehabilitation and amenities. Amen.

THORNS TO METRO for its plan to camouflage one of its buses as part of a recruiting drive for the National Guard. Why don't they go all the way and call it the Peacekeeper?

ROSE SNATCHED BACK FROM NADINE WINTER. We were going to award her one when we learned that she had taken her oath of office in her own ward -- away from the downtown hoopla, "in keeping with my commitment to bring government to the people." But then it turns out, she copped out by having a ceremonial oath administered at the convention center as well.

ROSES TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL for new legislation that promotes the use of restitution and community service as sentencing options in the local courts.

ROSES TO THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON PLANNING & HOUSING ASSOCIATION which has turned fifty. The organization, which had its roots in New Deal concern over housing problems, has been headed in recent years by Jim Harvey, who is leaving to take a job with the American Friends Service Committee.

THORNS TO AMERICAN UNIVERSITY for firing 92 cleaning employees and replacing them with a cleaning contractor, which has only offered to hire about 15 of the old workers. AU has a budget of over \$70 million and plans to save \$250,000 by the move. With this brutal decision, AU takes the lead over GWU in the academic avarice department.

because one of UDC's real achievements has been to show that higher education could be provided despite the foundation of an inadequate secondary school system. A move away from this commitment, which has existed from the start, would lessen UDC's value as a public institution. Nearly two-thirds of the students at UDC are enrolled in the centralized program known as the "university college." Alexander expects his plan would reduce this by half although, ala the Great Emaciator, he promises that "the truly needy" would get help.

Several people have commented to me that they thought the National Geographic piece on Washington left much to be desired. Particularly disturbing were the racial stereotypes displayed in the photos, e.g. a double page spread that showed whites at a black tie event and blacks as chauffeurs waiting beside limousines. The NG is great for volcanoes and megaphotos of beetles but tends to fall down in more sensitive matters of culture and sociology. I doubt that even George Frain, who complained bitterly about the magazine's treatment of Adams Morgan, can change this. You'll just have to compensate. Like the guy I know who brought one of my young nephews (who lived in a National Geographic family) a copy of Playboy. He explained to the 12-year-old's parents that he thought it was time that the kid learned that "white women have breasts, too."

The troglodytic right, which last made its appearance on the local scene during the tuition tax credit fight, is back again. The Washington Legal Foundation has filed a complaint with the DC Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure, urging the removal of Superior Court Judge Henry Kennedy. Kennedy's alleged sins include lenient sentencing, refusing to answer inquiries from crime victims and conflict of interest (because of his board membership in an organization which is concerned with work-release programs.)

Bill Raspberry got to Philadelphia before the last issue of the Gazette got to you, so the item about his differences with Daily News columnist Jill Porter was a tad out of date. Sorry, but that's the breaks when you subscribe to a leisurely journal of opinion.

Raspberry, who had made a disparaging remark about Philly, took Porter up on an offer to come for a tour. A few things Raspberry didn't tell you in his op ed report:

- He's never seen any of the Rocky films and thus was bemused by Porter's suggestion that he take a punch at a side of beef in a food market. After that she didn't even bother to suggest a run up the Philadelphia Art Museum steps.

- After meeting with Mayor Green, Raspberry said, "I can't even get in to see the mayor of Washington."

- He had also knocked Newport, Kentucky, in his column. Raspberry was asked if he had ever been there. No, he replied. Would you like to?

"God forbid, somebody might be using the car when I got there."

• At the end, Raspberry did his best to patch things up: "Philadelphia's a lovely town -- what I really was thinking of was Cleveland."

Watch for changes in the Post's DC coverage. Milt Coleman, DC editor, has moved over to the national minority beat and Juan Williams has gone national as well.

An item from the Wall Street Journal adds yet another dab to the year that someone in DC did something right. The WSJ reports that press accounts of Walter Mondale's California Democratic Conference speech were glowing (remember how he "wowed" them?) but strangely unspecific in terms of content. Mondale spoke without a text and the Journal offers as a possible explanation for the media vagueness: "The Washington Redskins's playoff game was on TV while Mondale was speaking."

One matter you should follow closely during the city budget debates is how helpful the various 1986 mayoral hopefuls are. If you will recall, one of the problems in the last election was that we had a hard time remembering just what some of these folks actually did. So keep your eye on people like John Ray, Charlene Jarvis and Betty Ann Kane and make a note to ask the slackers and the hiders in the fall of 1983: "Where were you during the Budget Crisis of '83?"

Speaking of John Ray, he has been a busy beaver in the first few weeks of the council session. He's got himself a press secretary (Margaret Gentry -- who handled media during the mayoral campaign) and has introduced a mess of bills including ones that would provide zoning and tax incentives for low and moderate income housing (a la Montgomery County), make parents responsible for the juvenile delinquency of their children, have the president of the school board elected by the citizens rather than by the board, and make sure apartment owners keep their elevators in good working order.

Eugene Kinlow sends along a brag list of what the Board of Education has accomplished in the past year and a half. Lest the good that has been done get interred with the budget, here are a few items:

- A superintendent selection that was procedurally unflawed, efficient and reasonably fast; resulting in the selection of a schools chief who met the community's criteria and expectations.
- The defeat of the tuition tax credit initiative.
- Creation of the student progress plan and the elimination of social promotions at the elementary level.
- Negotiations for a new three-year contract with each of the systems four labor organizations without a strike and with some forward movement towards teacher and principal evaluation. There are now performance "hurdles" midway in the salary scale for teachers and school officers and

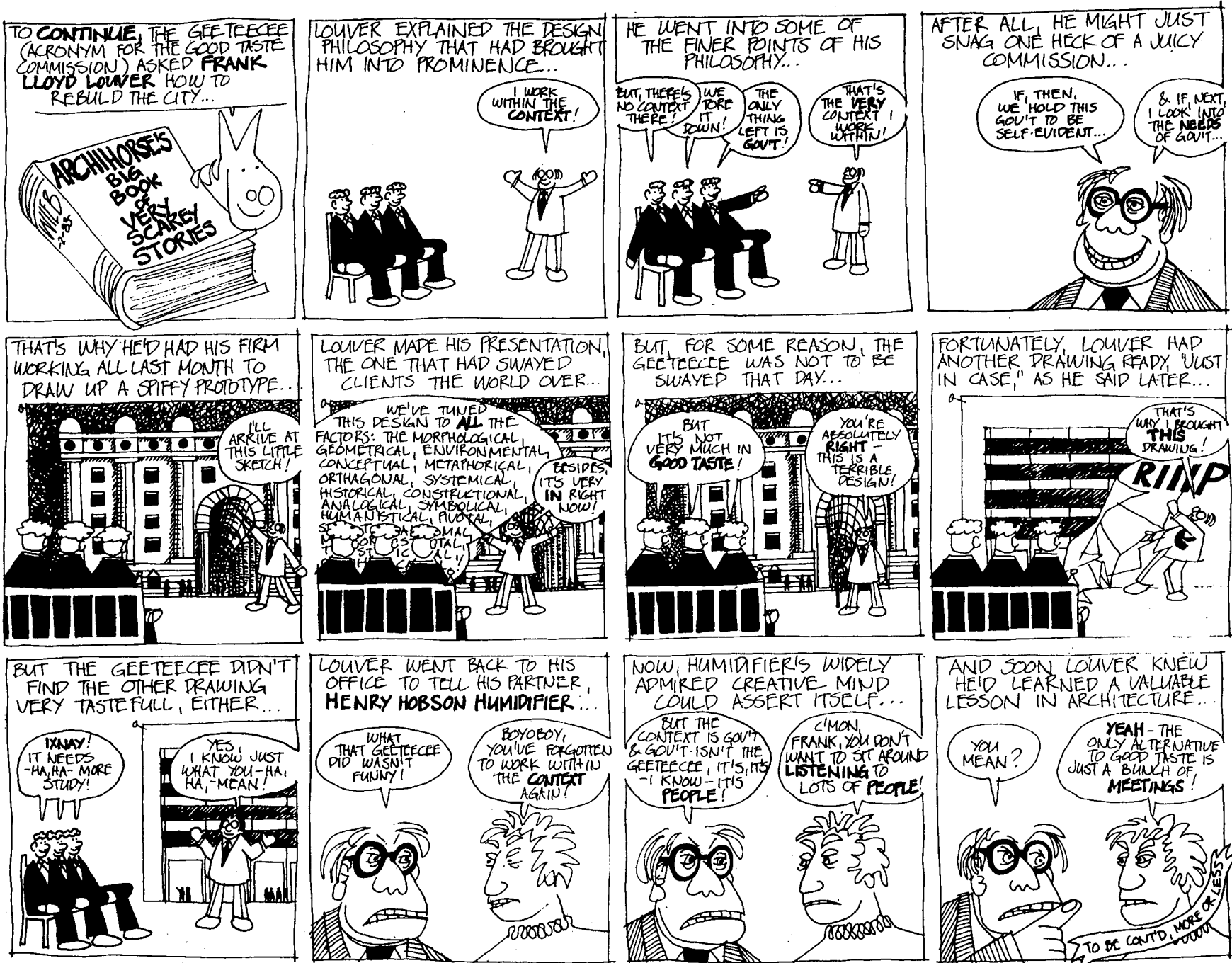
a mandatory program for creating a more objective system of teacher appraisal.

• New principals and assistant principals will be hired on three year contracts rather than a probation-tenure system.

- Creation of a college preparatory high school.
- An improved budgeting system.
- New policies to permit better use of available space in school buildings.
- Increased competency requirements for graduation.

The Georgetown's suggestion that its circulation area should succede from DC has come under a lot of fire, but while the solution may be a bit extreme, the anger and frustration behind it is well justified. If other neighborhoods would examine the balance sheet of their relationship with the city government, they might find the Georgetown proposal less fantastic.

What many in Georgetown have realized is that the city government operates more on the basis of what it can get out of a neighborhood than what it can do for it. Sure, if you make enough noise about a traffic problem or a planning decision, you may be heard, but there is in the Barry administration a stunning lack of positive support for neighborhood goals and ambitions. Barry & Company seem to think of neighborhoods as money generators and little else. This journal has, for years, argued



that strengthening the power of neighborhoods is central to any plan for improving the city. The ANCs need more power, the local schools need more power, the DC government needs to be decentralized and we badly need politicians who will respond to the specific needs of people and communities rather than always dealing in theoretical aggregates. In its own quirky way, the Georgetown has done other neighborhoods a favor -- by suggesting there is a limit to what a community should be willing to suffer at the hands of the central government.

I may have been unduly pessimistic last month about Dave Clarke's willingness to break ranks with the mayor. He was quite feisty in early stages of the budget consideration and seemed more interested in serious oversight than I had suspected. Scratch that comment from last month for the time being.

On the other hand, there are reports of problems in the chair's office, specifically complaints by representatives of groups protesting about the budget cuts. Two of these activists, who went to see Clarke on

different parts of the budget, say they were met with surprising hostility.

People are starting to ask me whether I'm sorry I endorsed Barry. Well, let's put it this way: I'm sorry I had to endorse Barry. The other candidates either weren't qualified, couldn't get elected or you wouldn't like it if they could. Nonetheless, the months since the election have done nothing to make me glad I voted for the mayor. So do not send to ask for whom the hell the mayor toils. It's probably not for thee.

AROUND THE TOWN

The Council of Governments recently released the fourth in a series of reports which analyze the 1980 census data that shows striking changes occurred in the characteristics of the region's black population over the 1970's. The new report, entitled "Socio-economic characteristics of the Black Population of Metropolitan Washington, 1980" indicated a shift in the place of residence of blacks -- from the urban center to many suburban locations. ... In 1970 the District of Columbia was home for 76 percent of the region's blacks but by 1980 the figure dropped to 54 percent, a change of 22 percentage points. ... Younger black families with children have been the most mobile group, choosing to live and raise their children in the suburbs while the elderly remained in the urban center. ... Over the decade, the region experienced a moderate decline in the black pre-school population, but significant increases in the school-age, working-age and senior citizen groups of the black population. ... Copies of this report are available from COG's information center at a cost of \$7.50. ... For more information call 223-6800, ext. 230.

The Institute for Contemporary Culture presents a 3-part discussion series on Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the winner of the 1982 Nobel Prize for Literature. All 3 programs will be held at the Acapulco Restaurant, 2nd floor, 2450 18th Street, N.W., at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings March 2, 9 and 16.

This series will explore the world of Gabriel Garcia Marquez through the recurrent themes in his works: magical realism, solitude, the permanent state of violence in Latin America. ... The discussions will be led by people who have a background in writing, literature and the social and political issues of Colombia. Info: 483-5825.

A herpes study program offering diagnostic testing and education to patients with suspected herpes simplex virus type I and II infections has been established at the Georgetown University Medical Center.

Patient services are located in the Children and Youth Ambulatory Service, Bles Building, 1-18, 3800 Reservoir Road, N.W. Appointments are scheduled during evening hours from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For appointments, fee schedules, and other information, call the Herpes Program at 625-2224 between the hours of 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

George Washington University is offering 40 full-tuition grants to District residents who are academically admissible and who have substantial financial need. To be eligible for a grant, a student needs a "B" average in college preparatory curriculum and a score of 400 or above on each section of the SAT examination. The program sponsors a ten-week summer course to help students adapt to the university, which includes workshops in reading, communications, math, science, and study skills. The staff also provides students with sup-

port services throughout their four years at GWU. Info: Deniese S. Bond, Admissions Counselor, at 676-6054.

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The Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law has begun a new program to provide legal representation to victims of racial and religious hate/violence activities in the metropolitan area. The program will include three components:

- the provision of direct legal assistance to individual and institutional victims of racial and religious hate/violence;
 - the provision of lawyers who will be available to speak to religious and civic organizations concerning their legal rights and remedies in cases of hate/violence activity; and
 - a research project to study existing federal, state and local laws and ordinances which cover hate/violence activity, and to help develop model legislation for metropolitan jurisdictions which might seek assistance.
- Info: 347-3801.

The Institute for Policy Studies is sponsoring a series of three lectures by I. F. Stone called 'Retrying Socrates: What Plato Didn't Tell Us.' Says Stone: 'I believe the case against Socrates was political and a black eye for all I believe in, for democracy and for free speech.' The lectures will be held March 8, 14 and 21 at 8 pm at Gaston Hall, Georgetown University. The series costs \$15 and each lecture is \$7 -- with discounts for students and senior citizens. Info: 234-9382.

Lesbian and gay residents of the area are invited to a planning session for an area-wide conference to be held on Feb. 24 from 7-10 pm in the city council chambers. There will be a reception afterwards. Over 40 lesbian and gay community activists have been involved in discussions leading to this planning session. The coordinators are Gil Gerald, Ray Melrose and David Vos. Info: Lesbian-Gay Conference, 816 Eye St. NE, DC 20002.

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Beau Hickman in the Washingtonian: I admire Dorothy Gilliam's effort to be an outspoken champion of the underdog. But I do believe that if the world came to an end and she reported the event, the headline on the story would read:

WORLD DESTROYED
WOMEN AND BLACKS SUFFER MOST

Georgetown ANC chair Raymond Kukulski: [Georgetown is becoming a place] with none of the basic services needed for a community. We have 115 liquor licenses and only three dry cleaners.

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LETTERS

The Post editorial extolling Mr. Alexander's recent actions and, incidentally, denigrating the faculty of UDC, indicates a lack of knowledge about, and indeed a lack of concern for, the true situation at the University.

It is quite true that the faculty have been openly critical of Mr. Alexander and, in fact, of most of the university's administration. The reasons for this would be evident if the Post was willing to do even a cursory analysis of the present status of the University.

The faculty is angry... and demoralized. It might be reasonable to expect that the Post might sense this and strive to understand the reasons for it. Talk to someone who has had the experience of having a proposal for grant funds approved through university channels. Talk to someone who has had his grant funds improperly allocated. Talk to someone who has gone ten months before being reimbursed for university-approved travel. Talk to someone who has had to work with a personnel office that makes it next to impossible to get people hired efficiently. Talk to part time faculty who have not been paid until after the semester. Talk to faculty or students who wish to use the library or other facilities on nights or on Sundays. How many quality institutions that you know of make it difficult to put in extra hours on holidays?

Talk with students whose majors have been incorrectly recorded for three years. Talk with students who have tried to have any errors in their records corrected. Talk with students who have been incorrectly advised by university college advisors. Talk with people who are tired of being cold all winter and hot all summer. Talk with people who have spent 3 hours in stuck elevators, a common occurrence last year, while maintenance people watched helplessly.

The faculty at UDC have been fighting its bureaucracy for years trying to get these and countless other situations dealt with. Mr. Alexander, contrary to his implications, is not waging a one man battle for quality and we resent the very idea of this. Faculty were not opposed to the suspensions per se. We were opposed to Mr. Alexander's use of the suspensions as a means of drawing attention to his performance.

The President does not make the school. Until the absurd roadblocks to quality, some of which I've mentioned, are removed by the bureaucrats, until they start taking some pride in doing a job well, then all the talk about quality will remain just that... talk.

A university exists for the purpose of educating its students and only when our administrators realize this and decide to allow the faculty to expedite the process of education can we move to quality.

—Harold Goldstein